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FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1996 • ELUL 8, 5756 • 9 RABIA 2, 1417

Netanyahu: Gov't will discuss Hebron with PA soon

LUMEL XIII, NUMBER 19360

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday told members of the Likud's political bureau that official talks with the Palestinian Authority will resume soon and will cover a variety of issues, including

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Netanyahu vehemently denied that he had promised the US to cease the construction of bypass roads for Israeli settlements in the territories. The bureau was called into session

to discuss the issue of IDF redeployment in Hebron. Huwever, Netanyahu put off the deliberation, but not before a tiff with bureau chairman MK Uzi Landau, who also heads the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Netanyahu alluded to the renewed attacks on his government by a host of Arab leaders by mentioning the "attempt to impose a political siege" on the new government when it first took office in June,

Netanyahu recalled that "when we took office we were faced with a concerted attempt by some circles in the Arab world to impose a diplomatic siege upon the new government and upon the State of Israel. This went so far that the first action we had to take was to break through this siege and to do it as quickly as possible.

"In fact, the aim was to expand this siege in the direction of Europe and the US. There was an urgent need to approach the governments in question, as well as Arab leaders, to put an end to this."

Netanyahu told the bureau that international agreements have to be adhered to, he called on the Syrians to continue the talks with Israel, and he belittled Labor leader Shimon Peres for "finding so much time to playact as prime minister."

On Hebron itself, Netanyahu had nothing new to say. He said he cannot as yet bring any plan before the (Continued on Page 2)

Peres, Arafat meet at Erez

JON IMMANUEL

LABOR Party leader Shimon Peres met with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday for the first ome since

losing the premiership.

In a press conference after the noe-hnur meeting no the Palestinian side of Gaza's Erez eheckpoint, Peres said, "I am no longer in the government. Neither did I come here to attack the government. But I have two great obligations. We made an agree-ment with the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian rais [chairman], and I feel deeply obliged to every promise we made on behalf of the government and on behalf of the Israeli people." Arafat greeted Peres "not just as partner but as a friend."

Palestinian sources at the meeting said that Peres listened and asked questions about the situaoon in the West Bank and Gaza. He said he would do what he could to influence the government, but poliocs was kept on a low flame.

The most controversial thing about the meeting was its location. It was held at Erez after an initial ban by the government on a heli-copter flight by Arafat from Gaza to Ramallah, where the two men were originally scheduled to meet. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu held up the authoriza-

Netanyahu held up the authoriza-oon of the flight plan for a couple of bours before giving his ukay. According to an official in the Prime Minister's Office, Netanyahu complained that the (Cuntinued on Page 2)

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ENDS 7;52 7:54 7:54 7:50 7:51 BEGINS 6:38 6:56 6:50 6:53 SHABBAT Tel Aviv Beersheba





Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai visits a Tel Aviv apartment housing foreign workers yesterday.

Cabinet to examine plan to deport up to 100,000 foreign workers

A PLAN to expel 1,000 illegal foreign workers a month and to eventually send up to 100,000 back to their home countries, is scheduled to be discussed at today's cabinet meeting.

The proposal, by Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai, calls for the establisbmeot of an authority and the allocation of several million tion in the number of foreign will suggest establishing transit eamps to house those awaiting

It is estimated at least half of the more than 200,000 foreign workers bere are employed ille-gally, and Yishai intends to tar-

get them first.
"No one is defining [all] for-

eign workers as criminals," said Yishai, who called for the declaration of a national state of emergency. "But every worker whose work permit has expired is an illegal worker ... and should be removed from the country." Yishai indicated that a reduc-

was reported yesterday that he easing of the six month-long clo-comed by the police.

During a visit to areas of south Tel Aviv populated by foreign workers, Yishai was told that many of the workers had entered the country on tourist visas, and are now requesting their families be allowed to joio them. Yishai saw apartments housing

up to 18 people per room, and expressed concern at the abysmal standard of living. Secior police officers who accompanied him, updated him oo the increasing crime rate among the workers, including drunk and disorderly and violent behavior. The proposal to set up shekels to deal with the issue. It workers would lead to a further transit camps has been wel-

Fullnwing his tour, which

included a visit to a kindergarten for children of foreign workers, Yishai wrote to Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, warning him of the possible spread of disease because of the squalid living conditions.

There is no doubt, this requires urgeot attention," wrote Yishai. "Every resident of Tel Aviv whn comes into cnotact with foreign workers is likely to face health risks."

(Continued on Page 2)

Mubarak threatens cancellation of summit

PM sending Levy to Cairo

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

THE regional economic summit planned for Cairo in November may not take place unless Israel upholds its commitments to the Palestinians, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told a gathering of academics in Alexandria yes-

"I've told the Israelis that no progress in the peace process will hit the Middle East economic summit, because not many countries will attend." Mubarak said. He fell short, however, of saying that Egypt

would cancel the event.

Prime Minister Binyamin
Netanyahu phoned Mubarak last
night and pledged that there would be progress on the Palestinian track. Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold met yesterday with PA President Yasser Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, in an attempt to make some progress on the outstanding issues.

Netanyahu's office issued a statement after the phone call, insisting that Netanyaho understood from Mnbarak that the economie conference would take place.

Netanyahu also announced that he would soon dispatch Foreign Minister David Levy to Egypt in an attempt to smooth over rela-

Mubarak told the academics that Israel needed to move fast. "We are. womied that the length of time could affect the peace process. If there's no clear progress in the peace process and in implementing

the agreements and entering negotiations, I believe that many countries will not come.

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Though more than two months remain unol the parley is scheduled to convene, Mubarak's comments which echoed earlier remarks made by Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassinuny – could affect decisions by enmpanies on whether to attend.

But officials in Jerusalem said that Cairo will be forced to back down from these threats uoder pressure from Washington. The officials noted that President Bill Clinton, who is facing an election campaign, will want to point to the planned summit as one of his administration's accomplishments.

They also pointed nut that Washington had pressed both Israel and Jordan to agree during last year's summit in Amman that this year's summit would be held in Cairo. Both Israel and Jordan had wanted the summit to be held in Doha, the capital of Qatar.

The officials added that Mubarak knew that a pullback from Hebron is likely to take place before November, but by making a threat now, the pullback could be described as an Israeli response to Cairo's hard line.

Meanwhile, Western diplomats are urging the government to reach an agreement with the Palestinians on a pullback from Hebron by September 5, the date scheduled for a donors' meeting in Washington to discuss

(Continued on Page 2)



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Meridor to meet with PA economy minister

FINANCE Minister Dan Meridor will bost a meeting with Palestinian Authority Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Maher Masri next Tuesday, the Treasury announced yesterday.

The meeting has been arranged under the auspices of the Joint Economic Committee. The purpose of the session will be to formulate an outline for future cooperation and to set a framework for further talks.

The ministers will be accompanied by Undersecretary for the Ministry of Trade Samir Hulleileh and Treasury Director-General

DAVID HARRIS

Masri recently replaced Ahmed Qreia as bead of the economic talks with Israel. Meridor has so far not made any public statements regarding relations with the Palestinians, and has denied reports that he is to

He bas, however, made it clear he wants to see a normalization of relations with the PA as soon as

meet with PA Chairman Yasser

security demands allow. It is clear one of the main themes of the talks will be the

mark six months since the closure was imposed following the suicide bombings in Jerusalcm and Ashkelon

Since that time, Palestinian officials say, the living standard of people in the territories has deteriorated rapidly.

"Aside from the hardships faced by the people, the effect of the closure has been a real halt on investment potential," said Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction administration director Mohammed Ishtayeh. "The closure has eroded our efforts. Capital needs a healthy environ-

ongoing closure. Sunday will ment." PA officials confiscate book critical of Arafat's policies

OFFICIALS of the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Culture have apparently begun confiscating a book by Edward Said, the wellknown Palestinian intellectual, because of his intense opposition to the peace policies of PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The ban affects a book published in Arabic. English-language books by the professor of English at New York's Columbia University, have not been touched.

Ministry clerks went into at least one Ramallah bookshop last week and removed all the copies of Oslo

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JON IMMANUEL

2 - Peace without Land. According to the bookshop owner, it had been selling faster than any Arabic publication in recent years, except The Road to Oslo, the memoirs of

Mahmoud Abbas, Arafat's deputy. The bookshop owner said he had sold 73 copies in five days, before his remaining 27 copies were con-

The book mainly consists of arti-cles already published in Arabiclanguage newspapers. Some of them were published in English last year, as a book entitled Peace and Its Discontents.

All booksellers in the West Bank require a permit from the Ramallah-based Culture Ministry, which gives the ministry the right

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to remove any books it considers

Since the confiscations began, booksellers report that demand for the book has sharply increased in

Since PA ministries have no authority in Jerusalem, copies can be purchased there and "smuggled" back to PA-controlled areas. The book is published in Cairo and passes only through Israeli customs, so the PA, which Said complains has no control over its own borders, cannot stop it from reaching Jerusalem bookstores.

PA Higher Education Minister Hanan Ashrawi, who once was Said's student, said she had been told there was "no official decision to ban any books. This would be very dangerous. I checked and neither the minister nor his deputy took such a decision. If they did it would be the ministry of anti-cul-

She said that if books were confiscated, it was by "over-zealous clerks or police, but it is a very serious violation."

Erez crossing yesterday. DEPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) vehemently objected to Yishai's expulsion proposals, saying the deportation of tens of thousands of people world seri-ously damage the country's image abroad. Instead, he said, the government should grant all the workers the right to stay legally for a specific period, on

condition that they then leave. Meanwhile, in Hadera, police secured the release of six foreign workers who bad been locked in a sback on Mosbav Sde Yitzhak by their employer, with wbom they were having a financial dispute.

Simha Yishai, of the Workers Lifeline Association, which deals with the rights of foreign workers, said that foreign workers were often locked up, beaten, not fed properly, and deprived of money due to them.

Itim contributed to this report.

(Continued from Page 1) IDF approved the trip automatically without consulting.

Labor Party leader Shimon Peres meets with Palestinian Authority

However, the official said that Netanyahu would not hold up the approval just because he did not like the idea of Arafat and Peres holding talks on the peace The official said there was

"only a two-hour delay," hut hy that point, Arafat and Peres had already made alternate arrangements to meet at Erez.

In Ramallah, the PA Legislative Council debated the ban in the

morning, and members called it an insult to the Palestinians. They are behaving like occu-

piers," Higher Education Minister Hanan Ashrawi said. By the afternoon, security sources said the ban on Arafat's

flight had been revoked, but Peres and Arafat agreed to meet at Erez. UN special coordinator Terje Larsen was seen entering the building where the meeting was held, did not participate. Instead, he delivered a message to Arafat,

sources said. The main Palestinian participants were chief negotiator Mahmoud Abbas and Preventive Security Service head Col. Mahmoud Dahlan.

David Makovsky contributed to this report.

HEBRON

(Continued from Page 1) bureau, as "it is too early for this and an unwise thing to do just now." But a hint of the sort of opposition any plan to redeploy the IDF in Hebron could cause inside the Likud was seen when Landau proposed a resohution hinging any moves on the Palestinians fully living up to their undertakings and on full reciprocity

between the sides. Landau said that he "understands the pressures under which the govemment is laboring, but the Palestinian violations of their end of the bargain are so deep that they go

all the way to the heart of the mat-

When Netanyahu heard of the draft resolution, he reportedly threatened not to attend the bureau session, considering the resolution to be tantamount to placing constraints on the government's freedom to act.

Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh resolved the matter by convincing Landau to insert a clause stating that the bureau supports the government and its policy on Hebron, so long as the principle of reciprocity is respected.

MUBARAK

(Continued from Page 1) providing extra funding for the Palestinian Authority.

\$127 million, which it blames in large measure on the limits set on the number of Palestinians permitted to work inside Israel.

Currently 40,000 Palestinian

The PA has a budget deficit of

laborers are allowed to work inside Israel, but the PA and many of the donors want the government to increase the figure substantially. Each additional 10,000 workers adds another \$20 million in annual

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income to the PA. SHARON HOTELS

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Abbas: Iran plotting overthrow of PA

CAIRO (AP) - Iran is plan with militant Palestinian groups overthrow the Palestini Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, member of the PLO's Executive Committee, bas suggested in an interview with the Arabic daily Asharq al-Awsat.

He said that the plotters plan to assassinate PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, saying they intend to kill "symbols" of the Palestinian

The PA has information that Iran and radical groups are planning "military operations and assassi- t nations aimed at the Palestinian Authority and its symbols with the aim of overthrowing it," he told

the London-based newspaper. Abbas, an architect of the Oslo Accords, declined to specify the source of the information or the groups involved.

But he said meetings were recently been held in Iran between Iranian officials, Palestinians, and militant Islamic groups to prepare

Israeli drowns off British coast

AN Israeli yachtsman died in a London hospital yesterday after, being plucked from stormy seas by a rescue helicopter alerted hy his distraught teenage son. British coast guards said.

The 13-year-old boy, who was not named, had been sleeping and woke to find his father had disappeared overboard 10 kilometers off the Cornish coast of southwestern England.

They were believed to have a distant relative in the county of Cornwall.

Coast guards said an hour elapsed before the boy sent an SOS and it took navy rescue helicopters another two hours to locate the man.

Efforts to revive him on the way to hospital failed.

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NIS 30. Tickets ending in 88 and 49 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 6 and 2 won NIS 10.

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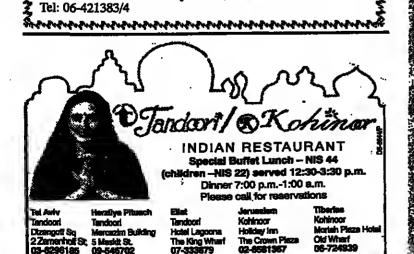
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The Jerusalem Pos. Abbas: Iran plotting verthrow

h militani Palestinian group the Palestin inority. Mahmoud Abba mber of the PLO's Exemp erview with the Arabic & de said that the plotters place sassinate PA Chairman Ye

afat saying they imend to mbots of the Palent The PA has information that The PA has information that it radical groups are plant military operations and assumed at the palent uthority and its symbols with the parthrowing it. The th of overthrowing it, bey e London-based newspaper Abbas, an architect of the n occords, declined to specifiest the information or roups involved.

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Israeli drown off British coa

AN Istaeli yachtsman died nospital yesterday perse plucked from storm - recue helicopter alend teenage son, B · "--" ş-urdy xaid. The Pear-old boy, who " Tanted had been sleeping

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of the car was lightly injured, as were her two passengers.

The driver told police that another car, which was passing her, forced her to swerve to the right to avoid an accident, and she then hit Raneim.

The Ceotral Bureau for Statistics, meanwhile, reported yesterday that police recorded 1,930 traffic accidents involving injuries last mooth. There were 31 fatal accidents, in which 37 people were killed, and 206 involving serious injuries. Altogether, 3,293 people were injured, 279 of

them seriously. The bureao said this represented an 11 percent decrease in the oumber of accidents compared to June, and a 16 perceot drop in the

number of injured. In the first seveo months of the year, there have been 14,761 accidents, in which 281 people have been killed and 26,792

arways be filled with violence. Whoever thinks he can halt the negotiations and the situation will remain the same, must understand:

the darkest days. How can anyone even think of preventing the leader of the opposition from meeting Arafat? After all, we have

Orwell's voice. You can 1 5. cynical than that. We have our own policy and we'll strive to apply it by every acceptable norm," he said.

be next ambassador to Egypt

DR. Alexander Bligh, a former aide to former premier Yitzhak Shamir, is likely to be named the next ambassador to Egypt.

Bligh, who has a doctorate in Middle East studies and formerly served in military intelligence, has already held discussions about the post with Acting Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur.

A decision on the new envoy must be made quickly since Ambassador David Sultan is expected to be named ambassador to Canada in the oext few weeks. Sultan has been eager to leave Cairo ever since there was a false story in the Egyptian opposition press charging he was tied to the killing of Egyptians in 1956.

DAVID MAKOVSKY

Several diplomatic posts remain vacant, especially since the new government recalled political appointees from several top posts. Among the positions left open are ambassadors to the UN, Russia.

Turkey, and South Africa. Two leading candidates for the UN post are Oded Eiran, a professional diplomat who has held a wide array of senior posts, and Dr. Yossi Olmert, a former think-tank analyst who ran on the Likud list for Knesset.

The consul-general's position in New York, which was a held by Collette Avital, a foreign service officer whom the Likud charges

PALESTINIAN

Chairman Yasser Arafat is establish-

ing a new security force to contain

dissent at Palestinian universities, at

a time of growing criticism of him

for alleged human rights abuses by

the multiple Palestinian security

Arafat ordered the establishment of

the Jihaz Am el-Jamat, or University

Security Organ, earlier this week,

Palestinian sources said. The security

force is to be given the job of pre-

making arrests of students who incite

During the intifada, the Palestinian

universities were a center of protest

against Israeli rule. Under the PA,

the universities have again become a

fertile ground of dissent against the

Arafat originally made the deci-

sion to set up a special university security force after fierce clashes

occurred in the spring at An-Najah

University in Nablus, between stu-

dents protesting the imprisonment of

fellow students by the PA, and

to be headed by Abu Samir Kudwa.

The force itself is only now begin-

ning to be set up, but is slated to

begin operations soon, according to

University Security Organ is just

another indication that the human

rights situation is only getting

worse," said Khader Shkirat, director

"I think the establishment of the

The University Security Organ is

Palestinian authorities.

Palestinian Police.

the sources.

against the PA," said one source.

forces operating in the territories.

holds strong pro-Labor leanings, is also vacant It seems that both Foreign Minister David Levy and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu are considering different candidates for that post, Levy is said to favor former Likud MK and former consul-general in Toronto Dror Zeigerman. Netanyahu is said to be seriously coosidering Yossi Ben-Aharon, who served as

Shamir's director-general. The one major diplomatic appointment made by the Likud since coming to power was the appointment of Eliahu Ben-Elissar as ambassador to the US, replacing Itamar Rabinovich.

Arafat establishes new

university security force

the Jerusalem-based Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment.

"We already have so many differ-ent security forces in operation, why do we need more?" said Shkirar, whose organization has been one of the leading Palestinian groups criticizing the alleged human rights abuses by the existing Palestinian security forces.

Shkirat called on Arafat to reverse venting student uprisings, and his decision, and instead concentrate putting them down when they occur. on cleaning up the operations of the existing Palestinian security forces. "They will be responsible from everything from monitoring the At least 10 different PA-affiliated political atmosphere on campus to

security groups operate in the Palestinian and administered territories, while many of these groups are extremely fractured, with the commander of a district working independentily of commanders elsewhere.

The security groups in existence already include Force 17, National Security Police, Civil Police, Preventive Security, Intelligence, Presidential Police, Special Security Police, Criminal Police, Border Police, and Coast Guard, according

to Palestinian sources. "The time has come to reform the entire police and security apparatus in the West Bank and Gaza," Shkirat

"Shmooze"

"Shabbat Shalom"

"Chag Sameach"

"Kvetch"

"It's A Boy"

"It's A Girl"

"Whatever..."

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Dangerous hysteria

K Haggai Merom's claim on Wednesday that the government's poli-Lcies have led the intelligence services to change their assessment of Syria's intentions. and that they oow see a threat of war with Syria as a growing possibility, is only the latest in a series of similar accusations by senior Labor figures. On Sunday, for instance, party leader Shimon Peres charged that the "freeze" in talks with Syria would militarily endanger Israel, and on Monday, former minister Yossi Beilin said this freeze might lead to "a violent eruption of hostilities with Syria."

All of these statements are as disingenuous as they are irresponsible. Coming from such senior figures, who can claim ignorance neither of the facts nor of the realities of diplomatic negotiations, they demonstrate a reprehensible readiness to sacrifice the nation's interest to narrow partisan concerns.

For starters, as all three men certainly know, signs of Syria's warlike behavior have been evident for a long while. Syria spent the entirety of the previous government's tenure building up its already formidable military capability still further, to a degree far beyond what it needs

Just two weeks ago, for instance, a report on Syria's air force by the prestigious Jane's Defence Weekly stated that this force's capability "goes far beyond a defensive posture." The report also said Syria is believed to have established Scud missile sites io underground bunkers, which would be within easy striking range of Israeli troops on the Golan Heights. Neither of these clearly threatening developments were achieved in the past two months; Syria has worked on them steadily for the past four years and longer.

That same week, a sister publication called Jane's Sentinel said that Syria has the most advanced chemical weapons program io the Arab world, including missiles capable of delivering chemical warheads to any part of Israel and one of the largest stockpiles of chemical weapoos io the Third World. Syria also runs its own chemical weapons plant and is investing heavily in the production of new weapons, the report added. Again, this development did not occur overnight; Syria has clearly been preparing for the possibility of a war for some time.

Even this week's Scud-C test is oot new; this is the fourth time Syria has tested a self-made

Labor's desire to conceal these facts may be uoderstandable, since they are the best possible argument against giving up the Golan. Most experts agree that Syria would think loog and hard about attacking Israel as long as Israel has a clear military advantage, and Israeli artillery on the Golan - which is within striking range of Damascus - is one of the key factors in giving Israel such an advantage. In cootrast, Syria's military build-up does not provide reassuring evidence of its peaceful intentions if a treaty

Worse than the sheer dishonesty of charging that Syria is suddenly reconsidering a military option after having previously abandoned it, however, is the fact that at best, these statements opposition.

Sir. - President Clinton is a prov-

en friend of Israel and the Jewish

people. His decision to reject Pol-

lard's clemency appeal is a direct

result of the American Jewish lead-

ership's failure to press Pollard's

case within the Jewish community.

Absent a clear and unambiguous

mandate from the American Jewisb

community, there is little reason for

President Clinton, in an election

year, to assume the political risks of

freeing a confessed spy.

The American rabbinate has long

ago gone on record as supporting

Pollard's release from prison. Over

1,000 rabbis representing all denom-

inations of American Jewry have

publicly signed a petition appealing

for a commutation of Pollard's sen-

tence to the time already served.

Unfortunately, with few notable ex-

ceptions, this high-profile campaign

has never been embraced by syna-

gogue lay organizations and Jewish defense organizations. American

Jewish leaders, fearful of dual loyal-

ty accusations, have abandoned Jon-

Efforts to secure Pollard's free-

dom need to be directed first at the

American Jewish community, Until

an overwhelming number of Ameri-

can Jews are convinced that Pollard

has paid an appropriate price for

Sir, - The reason for the gradual

erosion in the motivation of our

youth to serve their country, is crys-

tal-clear to anyone with a discerning

eye who is prepared to be honest

with himself. Our fancy, luxurious

lifestyle. The obsession to go over-

seas, to have two cars, build a villa

and give each child his own bed-

room - these are the reasons. How

on earth is a young man supposed to

switch psychologically every two to

three weeks from the luxury of his

athan Pollard

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LEADERSHIP FAILURE

breaking the law, it will be difficult

for any president to grant him clem-

ency. Moreover, no parole board

will overrule the decision of the

During several lengthy prison visits with Jonathan Pollard in Marion,

Ill. and Butner, N.C., he expressed

profound remorse to me for betrav-

Jonathan Pollard is very much

aware of the incalculable damage

his activities caused to American-

Israeli bilateral relations. He deeply

regrets that his behavior, however

well intentioned, harmed the inter-

Jewish leaders to exercise leader-

ship on the Pollard affair. Damaging

as this scandal is to the record of

Jews as loval citizens of the US.

ignoring it will not make it disap-

pear. The misguided actions of one individual should not be allowed to

impugn the character of millions of

Jews who loyally serve our country.

As proud and loyal Americans, we

have a duty to demand equal justice

under the law. Pollard's continued

punishment is both excessive and

fancy homelife to giving of himself, to endangering his life fighting

Not so many years ago, when a soldier came home for Shabbat ev-

ery two to three weeks, the home he

came back to had very little luxury

and absolutely no privacy, so that the contrast with his living condi-

tions in the army was not so

MIKE GLAZER

RABBI RICHARD THALER

The time has come for American

ing the trust of the US.

ests of the US.

New York.

terrorists?

enormous.

LACK OF MOTIVATION

President of the United States.

undermine Israel's negotiating position, and at worst, they could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

The damage to Israel's negotiating position is obvious. The Golan Residents Committee was not off the mark when it accused Merom of serving Syria's psychological warfare campaign. Syria would clearly like to be able to frighten Israelis into giving up the Golan, and Merom and company are abetting this goal.

Even without the fear element, bowever, having the opposition lobby the public and the government for Syria's positioos greatly lessens the likelihood of concessions from Damascus. Why should Syria agree, for instance, to a compromise on the Golan if it can sit back and let the opposition persuade the public it should be given the whole Golan? It is clearly in Israel's interest to get the best deal possible from Syria, and the best way to achieve that, as any negotiator knows, is by a tough initial bargaining position backed by a united front.

Worst of all, however, is the danger that the oppositioo's hysteria could actually precipitate a war. As Prof. Anthony Cordesman, a former senior US Defense Department official and now a senior research fellow at the Washingtonbased Center for Strategic and International Studies, said in an ioterview to Ha'aretz yesterday, the Syrians "interpret Israeli hysteria regarding the possibility of a Syrian attack as preparing the ground for an Israeli preemptive strike against Syria." As such, this hysteria actually increases the danger of a Syrian attack aimed at preempting the presumptive Israeli preemptive strike.

Furthermore, there is no justification for this hysteria. As Cordesman, who is considered a leading expert on military affairs in the Middle East, said, the possibility of a Syrian attack oo Israel "exists more in Israeli brains than io the staff rooms of the Syrian army in Damascus," precisely because Syria knows such an attack would be "suicidal."

The government deserves praise for acting quickly to reduce tensions internationally by sending a reassuring message to Syria via the Americans. However, its failure to take equally prompt action locally can only be termed gross irresponsibility.

When a senior opposition MK claims Israeli intelligence now considers a Syrian attack to be a real possibility, the government cannot bury its bead io the sand and preteod nothing was ever said. Yet instead of promptly issuing a statement about the ridiculousness of Merom's charges, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu maintained strict radio silence. Even worse, when asked for a response, instead of issuing a straightforward rebuttal of Merom's remarks, the Prime Minister's Office referred reporters to four MKs: Deputy Education Minister Mosbe Peled, coalition chairman Michael Eitan, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defeose Committee chairman Uzi Landau and Tsomet MK Eliezer Zandberg.

If many Israelis now believe Merom's threat of impending war with Syria, the government has itself to blame as much as its irresponsible

NO SILLY TEENS

Sir. - Your editorial of August 13,

'Adolescent behavior." underesti-

mates the intelligence of teenage

schoolgirls. I was a 15-year-old

"silly teen" when John Kennedy

was assassinated. What did I know

about politics? Not much. But well

before 15, I knew the difference

between right and wrong and that

murder was wrong.

I disagree that these teens' feel-.

ings have more to do with growing

up than with a failing on the part of

the state religious schools. After

Kennedy's murder, classrooms dis-

cussed the terrible wrongs which

had been done by Oswald and Jack

Ruby. For a teenager to consider

Yigal Amir as anything but a mur-

derer, indicates that the hasic values

of right and wrong were lacking in

NO PREJUDICE

that, as an American immigrant, I

dismissed" by Israelis ("Scared of the 'stranger'," August 9), so I can

only suppose that a quintessentially

Israeli outfit like Israel Military In-

me for my awful Hebrew or national

origin there or anywhere else in Isra-

Africans (among others)?

Sir, - Michael B. Oren tells me

"traditionally deprecated and ...

ARLEEN KLINE

classroom discussions.

Givatavim.

Clueless in Gaza

bout a month and a half Ago several Israeli friends of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat suggested that he try to build up the standing of the PA in Israeli public opinion by maintaining permanent contact with a number of leading Israeli journalists. Arafat reportedly

responded enthusiastically. Two weeks ago Arafat had an interview with Yael Dan of Channel 1, which TV critics and I saw as a total flop.

One of the people who had suggested the interview, Uri Avnery, also tried to arrange a meeting between Arafat and a number of Israeb columnists. This had to be postponed a number of times due to the chairman's peripatetic way of life, I was among a group of such columnists which finally met with Arafat in his office in Gaza on Monday. I can report that the flop with Yael Dan was not a fluke.

Judging by his performance, neither Arafat nor his close advisers have the vaguest idea of how to go about improving his and the PA's image among Israelis. I would go further and argue that be evioced similar obtuseness over influencing Western opinion in

his favor. Arafat's English was better than I expected and be bas clearly mastered the superficial mannerisms of TV talk-show propagandists. But what we got was a string of tired cliches and brazen evasions of any questions that cut too close to the bone. "Preserving the peace of the brave," "We shouldn't miss this historic opportunity" and "I am doing 100 percent of what I Oslo. It may be unpleasant for the Israeli journalists to convince us

YOSEF GOELL

can to prevent terrorism against Israel, but I can't guarantee 100 percent success; neither could you," are cliches that no longer cut water with Israelis, three years after the dramatic breakthrough at

Arafat's insistence of collusion between "Israeli fanaocs" (like General Security Service provocateur Avishai Raviv) and the

Palestinians to admit, but the success or failure of their national endeavor will depend primarily on their success in evoking the empathy and support of large segments of the Israeli public.

They may have needed it less under the previous government, in which Shimon Peres and bis coterie served as their major apologists. But after Arafat and his

The success of the Palestinian endeavor is dependent on winning the favor of the Israeli public

Hamas and Islamic Jihad extremists in the Palesonian camp, or that the GSS was behind the suicide bombing at Beit Lid in which 21 IDF soldiers were killed last year, can only be termed outright

WE WERE taken oo a quickie drive through Gaza City and the Strip. The depressing economic deprivation that we saw - primarily the result of overpopulation. PA fecklessness and corruption, and the six-month-long closure is a problem that can only be addressed effectively with a large measure of Israeli cooperation and goodwill.

... This will not be elicited by threats of soliciting anti-Israeli pressure from the co-sponsors-of followers did their utmost to bring about the advent of Binyamin Netanyahu's Likud government, they need such Israeli empathy and support more than ever

What the Palestinians need now are dramaoc deeds which can be turned to their advantage by adroit opinion-shapers.

Two examples come to mind. Arafat claims that he is doing his utmost to combat terrorism. As much as it causes us chagrin, one can understand his opposition to handing over Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists whom he claims to have rounded up and jailed, or Palestinian killers who have escaped from Israeli-held territory into his own safe havens. But why not organize periodic visits by

that those terrorists are indeed being kept in jail? Or am I being too naive?

The wave of car thefts in which thousands of vehicles disappear into the autonomous areas is an another issue which needs addressing to persuade Israelis of Palestinian goodwill. Effective and visible PA mobilization to prevent those thefts and to punish their perpetrators would have an electrifying effect on Israeli opin-

At the meeting, Arafat was just as obtuse in regard to questions about the sorry state of human rights in the PA areas. He denied that eight Palestinians had died as a result of being tortured during interrogation in PA security facilities. He claimed that Palestinian human rights activist Bassam Eid, who was abducted for a day by the PA and has reported on many alleged PA human rights abuses, was from Jerusalem and had Israeli citizenship, and thus could not be trusted. Human rights activist Dr. Ayad Sarraj, thrown into jail after telling Anthony Lewis of the New York Times that Palestinians had had more freedom under the Israeli occupation than under Arafat's Palestinian Authority, had violated the law, he said.

Arafat himself clearly does not have a clue, but isn't there anyone among the Western-educated intellectuals of the Palestinian national movement who could take the lead in trying to establish a real rapport with Israeli public opinion?

The writer comments on public

Still anchored in Ankara

The political conflicts in Turkey that allowed Necmettin Erbakan, the leader of the Islamic Rafah party. to become prime minister with only 21 percent of the vote and his subsequent visit to Iran, led many Israeli analysts to proclaim the end of the short boneymoon

between Ankara and Jerusalem. Iran and Syria celebrated what they saw as the end of this brief strategic alliance. Iraq's Saddam Hussein also stood to benefit from the shift in Turkey's policies, with an agreement for a new gas pipeline linking the two countries, and promises of Turkish support for further easing or ending UN sanctions.

However, a few days later, events in Cyprus demonstrated that international relations are always complex, and that ideology and national interests are often in conflict. In a series of violent confrontations, two Greek Cypriots were killed by Turkish troops on the other side of the Green Line that separates Nicosia.

These clashes reminded Turkey, and the military in particular, of the costs of alienating Israel, the US, and Western Europe, and the inability of Iran, Iraq, and Syria to provide much help. Turkey and Greece have been rivals for decades (and their ancestors for centuries before them), both in the Aegean and in the Mediterranean, where territorial and maritime disputes have been continuous.

The conflict has been particularly acute in Cyprus, which is inhabited by ethnic Greeks and Turks. In 1974, the Greek leadership and the military junta in

GERALD M. STEINBERG

Athens sought to alter the status quo unilaterally and unite with Greece (a policy known as Enosis). Turkey sent troops, and a fragile cease-fire was arranged. Since then, the Greek population of Cyprus, as well as the government in Athens, have been waiting for an opportunity to force the removal of the Turkish military. and to reverse the ethnic cleansing

as a "timeless enemy." During his visit to Iran, be signed a gas supply agreement reportedly worth \$23 billion over 20 years.

The visit and agreement were clear indications of Erbakan's plans to implement his ideology, and to demolish the growing ties between Israel and Turkey. He also defied the US, which threatened to impose sanctions on com-

Events involving Turkey and Cyprus go beyond reminding Israel that relations and alliances can change overnight

visit.

that took place on the island. The renewed violence in Cyprus was not deliberately omed to take advantage of Turkev's political vulnerability following Erbakan's accession to office and

his Iranian-oriented policies. The demonstrations marked the anniversary of the 1974 war, and probably would have taken place even if Erbakan had not gone to Teheran. Nevertheless, the renewed pressure caught Erbakan and his supporters isolated with respect to the US and NATO, of which Turkey and Greece are members, and Israel, which is a major power in the Eastern Mediterranean.

IN THE past, Erbakan had spoken about creating a military pact among Islamic states (an "Islamic NATO") and be referred to Israel panies and states dealing with Iran during the week of Erbakan's

Even without the renewed Cyprus crisis, Erbakan's government and the flirtation with Iran might have been short-lived. The US government objected to Erbakan's policy, and the secular and military leadership in Ankara noted the high cost of alienating the Americans. The severance of the political and military links with Israel, established uoder Tancu Ciller's leadership, would increase these costs.

With this renewed emphasis on their vital military interests, it is unlikely that Turkey's leaders will end the cooperation with Israel in fighting terrorism (Palestinian and Kurdish), or suspend the agreement allowing Israeli and Turkish air

forces to train over each other's territory. In addition, the Turkish military is likely to renew negotiations for an agreement for the Israel Aircraft Industries to upgrade its American-made F-4 jets. The incidents in Cyprus may

also produce a domestic political change in Turkey. While Erbakan was in Teheran, negotiating with the ayatollahs, Ciller, who remains foreign minister, immediately went to Cyprus. She understood that the threat of violence in the Mediterranean and the possibility of a renewed clash with Greece are far more important to Turkey's national interest than the agreements reached in Teheran. In pubbe opinion polls and elections, Ciller's visit to Cyprus to defend Turkey's bonor and security will be far more important that Erbakan's reception in Teheran.

These events involving Turkey and Cyprus also have important lessons for Israel, beyond the reminder that in the Middle East, relations and alliances can change overnight. Like Erbakan, a few Israeli ministers still place narrow ideological objectives over fundamental national security interests.

They are willing to risk a conflict with Israel's allies, including the US, to establish a few more isolated settlements.

Israel, like Turkey, needs to concentrate on its primary interests and not risk the costs of ideological diversions.

The writer is a senior research fellow at the Begin-Sadat Center. for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

POSTSCRIPTS

IT WASN'T the kind of remark President Clinton hears at state dinners and White House ceremonies.

"You suck - and those boys dustries and everyone in it did an outstanding job of hiding their feeldied," Patricia Mendoza says she told the president when he tried to ings during the years I worked there. shake her hand at a food fair. If I never spotted prejudice against Mendoza pulled away and refused to shake hands.

Mendoza, who says she was upel, it must be because Israelis are set over the June 25 bombing in even better dissemblers than Yan-Saudi Arabia that killed 19 US And anyway, we are not "the servicemen, was arrested along only immigrant community to come with her husband. Glenn, for disorderly conduct.

here out of volition, often sacrificing higher standards of living." Has Mi-Secret Service agents say they chael B. Oren never heard of South heard something which may have been a threat and are trying to DONN O'MEARA determine if Mendoza threatened

to kill the president - a federal offense.

The disorderly conduct charges don't stem directly from any threat to Clinton. When Secret Service agents tried to question Mendoza, she and her husband caused a public commotion, police said.

Mrs. Mendoza dismissed any notion that her comment was potitically motivated. "I'm apolitical," she said.

vote for the one I like best." The newfound fame is weighing on the Mendozas, "People are driving by with binoculars to look

at my house," she said. All the same, they aren't seeing much, she added: "We're very

in Australia turned into a hrawl when feminist protesters tried to drag an effigy of a witch from the top of a huge pyre.

Police were called to Casuarina Beach after reports of a disturbance during St. Hans' Day celehrations by Scandinavians. Protester Marie Matthews said

she felt sickened by the sight of the effigy. ''It was the typical representation of a witch - long hair, big wart on the nose, the hat - all the negative side of women.

"I knew there was no way I could allow this to go down - to me it was a tepresentation of the burning of womankind."

A WITCH-BURNING ceremony said the ceremony, believed to date back 1,200 years to Viking times, had never provoked trouble

before. "Then all of a sudden this year, this bunch turns up," be said. 'They were screaming out things like 'That's me, that's my sister you're hurning' and from the way they looked it was pretty hard not to yell back that they were right."

Hansen complained that the protesters "were throwing sand in. our eyes, they were throwing it was very early in the evening. it had been later and we'd had a Bonfire organizer Kai Hansen got out of hand," he said. couple more beers, it might have

FC me tioi 97:

SEI roor VIV:

Abbas: Iran Plotting Verthrow of PA

co (AP) Iran is ploud militant Palestinian groups the Palestinia groups ority. Mahmoud Abbas, mittee, has suggested in a regal-Awsan, said that the said that the plotters plan tesinate PA Chairman Yasar Saying they intend to hi

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those terrorists are into The wave of car thefts in the curands of vehicles dispersioned in the sunonomous areas his state which the curands to persuade is not supposed in the curands of the curand in an goodwill, Effect PA mobilization These thefts and to par telligious moniq iss ing effect on Israelion

the meeting. Arafa was som state of her - Tin: Palestinians had de Deing tortuned de claimed that Palesia and a duried for a day he human rights abs and thus could a - ... Human rights activis: ... SETS. thown mo jal: . Www. Lewis of thes that Pale umana under Arg and the sale of the bad see 10043

officer of the stream does An dem educateer Tale suman na and take the a less e deble hiereal ja - - for fulfille pinion?

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ach other ະກະ ໄໝນິ in a contract negotic ∴ ∴ chan - Original Cupres ् ः अस्तिकसार वर्षः - ... While End negotiating (ier, who rese mmedis She unders nolence is and the pussing an Greece - 1. TEC 10 Tub 小平 医神经液 na medie Beheran, in F and elected TES W det s univ n in Tahers the Tes imper. el beyond Vhddle E and the second Etchin 1 over in Services feu ft A. 1- 17.4. The Tree of the

יייין ווואר

William Co.

Same of Back

-3-

y return to the Education
Ministry was accompanied by a shocking realization of the widening of serious gaps in Jewish education in the country's secular school system. These gaps threateo to create a new type of Israeli, those who know very little about their Jewish heritage. As Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu mentioned recently, the lack of basic knowledge is extremely worrisome. In my previous terms as educa-

tin my previous terms as educa-tion minister, from 1977–1984 and 1990–1992, we used feed-back from pupils to determine that a great many of them felt dis-tanced from the type of tradition-al Jewish curricula offered to them. It was during this second term that I initiated the commission, headed by Prof. Aliza Shenhar (former rector of Haifa University and current ambas-sador to Moscow), to seek ways of improving the Jewish studies curricula for state schools.

Unfortunately, the old problem continued of pupils' total alien-ation to the traditional Judaism practised by our grandfathers and ancestors. What has happened since I left office in 1992 is a deepening of the rejection of historical Judaism, and this trend must and will be reversed by the ministry.

RELIGIOUS youth have a builtin framework for safeguarding a high level of religious and national awareness, based on religious values. Secular youth do not bave an inherent way of ensuring this, and thus the education system

must fill the gap.
It is obvious that students in secular schools should be exposed to other views of Judaism, and the wider interest shown by these pupils is commendable. But what is happening is that we have still not found a way to make the study of traditional Judaism palatable to these secular pupils, who will never acquire the knowledge of

ZEVULUN HAMMER

Back to the basics

their roots if the education system does not generate new interest in these topics.

The answer to the problem should be an evaluation of the study methods used to leach tradi-tional Judaism. How can we make it more applicable to today's sec-ular pupil? One must realize that traditional Judaism is studied all

It's natural for a nation to want to learn more about its history and ancient philosophers

over the world by non-Jewish scholars and educators, who have found it interesting and relevant enough for further study. Surely the "People of the Book" can use its educational skills to make the ancieot Jewish classics attractive to youngsters.

It is natural for any nation to want to learn more about its history and ancient philosophers. The challenge before us is not to discard or water down the traditional study of our religion, but to use the means at our disposal, including advanced technology and communications devices, to teach ourselves about ourselves.

CERTAIN elements of Israeli society have unjustly and inaccurately predicted that I would use my authority to, in their words, "force Judaism down the throats" of secular Jewish pupils. This predictioo is as ridiculous as it is misleading. I am fully cognizant of the danger of compelling people to learn, which is contrary to true Jewish thought. What I do intend to do, without making any apologies, is to reinforce the existing study of traditional Judaism - including more hours and widening the curricu-lum. Just as pupils in the US spend many hours studying the basics of American literature and early American thought, Israeli pupils will get their portion of their own history. What they choose to do with this information is their own business, but they will at least be afforded the opportunity to learn about their religioo

throughout the ages. The ministry is currently studying the various alternatives for overcoming this problem, and hopes to implement the recommendations at the earliest oppor-tunity. But I will not join those

who say that there is no compati-bility between teaching traditional Judaism and everyday life.

The relevant courses for learn-ing about Judaism will not be "ghetto-oriented," but will be combined with the study of history, geography, civics, culture and the arts. These courses will be an inseparable part of the general education system. Indeed, the Jewish people have survived because we have preserved our traditions, and prospered because traditions, and prospered because we have found a way to combine our beritage with the rapidly changing world.

Surely we can find a way to mod-ify our teaching methods and make the study of the Bible, Talmud, Rashi and Jewish customs more applicable to today's Israeli society. This will be one of my primary goals as minister. Tradicional Jewish thought is rich and diversified enough to be studied by anyone, and surely by Israeli secular students who need and want to know more about their origins.

The writer, a deputy prime minister, is education minister and head of the National Religious



laws and orders

"Wherever Law ends, Tyranny - John Locke

ootempt for the rule of law is a growing problem in

democracy will be undermined. organization. While alarmism may be unjustified, there is good cause for vigilance and concern that the country not get oo a slippery slope which begins with a little corner-cutting

and ends in oppression. Recent suggestions to neutralize the High Court of Justice threaten the separation of powers upon which democracy rests. Without an independent judiciary able to interpret the legality of government actions, governments with a Knesset majority will themselves decide what they may or may oot do, and that leads directly to arbi-

trariness and the abuse of power. It is not hard to understand why the idea of constraining the judiciary bas so much superficial appeal. Anyooe put out by pettifogging lawyers might be tempted to second the butcher's vow in Shakespeare's Henry VI: "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers," and lawyer jokes are almost as popular as jokes about politicians. But when politicians and officials themselves tolerate or support the idea of circumventing the legal system, they betray the trust of the public they were

elected or appointed to serve. Impatience with the constraints of the law is not unique to Israel; during the investigation of the "Irangate" scandal io the US, some of Oliver North's associates told a Senate panel that they knowingly violated American law because they were serving a "higher cause" - the oational. interest. Nor is it confined to those

inspired by divine commandment. Legal procedures are also seen as an impediment to the pursuit of purely secular objectives, like security: the late Yitzhak Rabin did not conceal his belief that the High Court of Justice got in the

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MARK A. HELLER

way of the fight against terrorism. He justified his expectation that the Palestinian Authority would The danger may not yet be clear and present, but unless the trend is effectively because it would be recognized and reversed, one of free to operate without the court the essential foundations of or the B'Tselem human rights or the B'Tselem human rights

> NEVERTHELESS, the most dramatic differences about the role

When politicians and officials tolerate circumventing the legal system, they endanger the basis of democracy

and rule of law in Israel have coincided with the secular-religious divide. This involves a conflict over the true source of sovereignty and it underlies many of the unresolved dilemmas in the Israeb body politic - from the question of the permissibility of transferring parts of the Land of Israel to non-Jews to the question of who has the authority to decide whether Rehov Bar-Ilan should or,

should not be closed. Although the alleged indifference of the High Court to religious sensitivities prompted the recent demands by haredi politicians to subject Supreme Court justices to retroactive approval by the political echelon, Rehov Bar-Ilan is just a symptom of the deeper issue: the rejection of the notion that positive law, which is made by men, should

take precedence over divine law. Underlying it all is the failure to adopt a constitution that would entrench citizens rights and regulate relations among the executive, legislative and judicial branches. This has left a vacuum which invites both judicial activism and continuing challenges to it.

Although this issue has never been definitively resolved, it has been contained for over half a ceotury because the government and the Israeli mainstream have resisted challenges to the institutions of positive law.

In the last few months, however, there are more worrisome signs of disrespect for legal procedures and rescomment of those who insist on the enforcement of legal requirements.

The figure at the eye of this poteotial storm is Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair. Since the elections, Ben-Yair has forced the prime minister to cancel his dismissal of the civil service commissioner, ordered an investigation of suspected criminal actions by Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman (who was theo obbjed to resign), and instructed Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to show cause why the appointment of a new chief of the Investigations Branch should not go forward.

As a result, Ben-Yair may well be the most feared individual in Jerusalem, and there are already voices calling for his ouster.

A previous prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, once got rid of another attorney-general, Yitzhak Zamir when he, too, made it difficult for the government to act as freely as it wished. It can only be hoped that Netanyahu will avoid the temptation to follow the same course. Undermining the rule of law is the wrong thing to do, and if the wrong thing is done, Israel risks turning into a banana repub-lic, fired by visions of grace and glory but lacking the freedoms that make them worth having.

The writer is senior research associate at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Prime Minister Bioyamin Netanyahu disagrees with Abraham Lincoln. The great American president stated, "You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time. But you can't fool

all of the people all of the time." Netanyahu begs to differ. Netanyahu has invited Syrian Presideot Hafez Assad to the negotiating table "without preconditions," after having committed

himself to keeping the Golan

Heights. Not surprisingly, Assad

views this offer with contempt. Netanyahu also intends to conduct new negotiations on Hebron, while throwing away the original agreements reached after long and difficult negotiations - agreements that were to have been implemented three months ago. His stated goal is to continue the permanent occupation of the entire city, while granting the Palestinians the right

to "direct their own lives." Netanyahu is ignoring the paragraph in the Oslo Accords which states that Palestinian residents of Jerusalem are to elect Jerusalemite representatives to the Palestinian Council. He forcibly prevents the Jerusalemite legislators from fulfilling their duty, claiming all the while that it is the Palestinians who are violating the accords. He sabotages the work of the Palestinian Council by preventing its members from attending their meetings. Soldiers at checkpoints systematically bully Palestinian legislators (as well as any other Palestinians they find).

He attempts to humiliate and demean Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat at every opportunity, with words of contempt

URI AVNERY

An invitation to terror

and by refusing to meet in person, in order to undermine Arafat's position and to incide his people against him.

Netanyahu is violating the explicit
paragraph in Oslo II which required
the unconditional freeing of all female
prisoners and detainees long ago. He
is violating the paragraphs which state
that at this time reportations should be

that at this time negotiations should be in progress regarding the fate of Jerusalem, refugees, settlements, borders, and security (on both sides). He is violating the paragraphs

A terrible mass of rage and frustration has been accumulating in the Palestinian territories, and it is growing daily which state that at this time the army

should be redeploying from a third of Area C. which includes the majority of the West Bank. He is violating the paragraphs relating to the establishment of the four "safe passages" between the West Bank and Gaza, He is implementing the "Ariel

Sharon Plan" in order to establish settlements throughout the Palestinian territories, using the usual deceitful methods - such as enlarging existing settlements and building bypass roads.

And while doing all the above, he declares morning and night that the Palestinians are breaking the agreements, and that for that reason it is impossible to continue who did not understand what was happening and so did not, at first, hurry home from abroad.

with the peace process.

How long can one fool the

Palestinians, the Israelis, the US,

the whole world? A week? A

month? Three mooths? Uotil after

Americao elections? A year? Wheo will it all explode?

WHEN, indeed? The intifada broke

out in December 1987. It took the

General Security Service and the

IDF entirely by surprise, as well as

defense minister Yitzhak Rabin,

A year earlier, I had described in detail the uprising that was about to occur. How is it that I had known a secret which all the GSS interrogators couldn't extract by means of every conceivable method of torture? Very simple - I had listened to the Palestinian community. The outbreak of the intifada

seemed suddeo. But it only appeared that way. Actually it was like the bursting of a dam behind which water had accumulated for a long ome. The level of the water had been rising gradually, quietly. unfelt, until, having reached a crit-

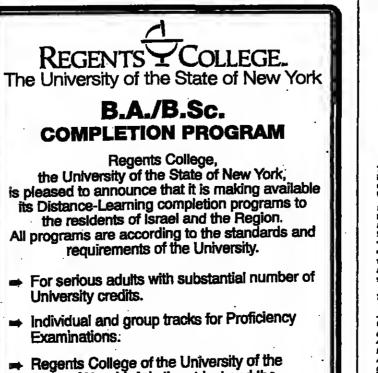
ical mass, the dam burst.

Now it is happening again. A terrible mass of rage and frustration has been accumulating in the Palestinian territories, and it is growing daily. No one can know ahead of time exactly when the next intifada could break out and in what form. Bus hombings? Killing of settlers? A mass uprising? War between the armed Palestinian forces and the IDF? A declaration of a Palestinian state? A renewed occupation of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank cities? The breakdown of relations between Israel and Arab states? The political undoing of King Hussein and Hosni Mubarak under a flood of public rage? War in Lebanon? War between Israel and

Syria? Some or all of the above? Then, a huge cry will ring out. Oslo is dead! The Palestinians are breaking the accords! We've always said that the Arabs can't be trusted! They're plotting our destruction! We'll show them! We must expel them from our land! We must build settlements all over Greater Israel!

Considering that the inevitable consequences of Netanyahu's current course of action are the annulment of the Oslo Accords, cessation of the peace process. and the start of a new cycle of bloodshed - it would be fair to assume that these are his inteotions to begin with. The only question remaining is whether he is aware of it or whether be is fooling not only the world but himself as well.

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Russians, Chechen rebels sign peace deal

NOVYE ATAGI, Russia

security RUSSIAN Alexander Lebed signed a deal with separatists in Chechnya yesterday, promising to withdraw government forces to end three weeks of bloodshed in Grozny, the

Chechen capital. Troops will be withdrawn from Grozny because constitutional order cannot be introduced using air and artillery strikes. They will be withdrawn from the whole of Chechnya," a triumphant Lebed told reporters in this village about 20 kilometers south of Grozny.

Moscow's forces have been attacking Grozny to try to oust rebels who seized it in a raid on August 6 that bumiliated the Russian military. The separatists said the attack was in retaliation for Russian bombardments of Chechen

The Russian attacks followed a deal with the rebels for disarmament in return for step-by-step troop withdrawals from the mainly Moslem region to be completed by September 1.

Truces have come and gone in 20 months of the Chechen conflict, and it was too soon to say whether the new deal would bring respite for civilians who have been fleeing Grozny in tens of thousands since the raid began.

It was also unclear how much power Lebed actually wields. Though President Boris Yeltsin appointed him his special envoy to Chechnya, Security Council secretary and security adviser, he criticized him in an interview earlier on Wednesday. "I am not completely satisfied with Lebed's performance in Chechnya," Yeltsin told RIA news agency in an interview shown in a television feed.

Lebed predicted further criticism from his many opponents in Moscow - democrats and hardliners alike. But he seemed not to care, saying: "Anyone who is unhappy is welcome to complain."

The exact text of the deal, signed by two of the more compromising figures on the two sides, was not

But Itar-Tass news agency said it provided for disengagement of Russian and rebel forces battling for 20 months in Chechnya and Lebed provided some pointers as he spoke amid a crowd of about 100 reporters, bodyguards and onlookers.

"Joint military administrations will be set up in Grozny to protect the city from looters and bandits,"

"I will come back with a draft political agreement in two days. We will discuss it and sign it," he added. That deal would also address the root of the fighting -Chechnya's status.

Lebed said forces would start withdrawing tomorrow from southem Chechnya and joint military administrations would be set up at the same time. A deadline for a Russian assault on Grozny had passed quietly yesterday morning as Lebed held a second day of talks.

Interfax news agency said the sides were discussing a nine-point deal which addressed the situation in Grozny, separating the fighters, stopping looting and averting clash-

Lebed's press spokesman Alexander Barkhatov said the two sides were working out a "day-by-

day schedule to stop the fighting.
Yeltsin appointed Lebed his
security chief after the former paratrooper captured 15 percent of the votes in the first round of Russia's presidential election this year.

But he criticized him after the talks began but before the deal was signed, saying: "We must remember, when he met voters he always promised to solve the Chechen problem if he had power. Now he has power. But unfortunately the results of his work are not yet obvi-



Two little girls hold teddy bears as they look at the funeral cortege arriving at the Saint Martin basilica in Liege yesterday. (Replace)

Two victims of pedophile buried

LIEGE, Beiginm (AP) - Two eight-year-old victims of a pedophile were buried in an emotional funeral yesterday as investigators widened the search for young girls who disappeared in recent years.

The nationally telecast funeral of Melissa Russo and Julie Lejeune capped a week of shock since Marc Dutroux, a convicted child rapist, led police to the bodies of the two girls buried in a garden.

The pair probably died of starvation in the cellar of a house he owned in southern Dutroux, 38, has admitted kidnapping at least

two other girls who remain missing. Yesterday, relatives, friends and bundreds of sympathizers packed Saint Martin's Cathedral to bid farewell to Melissa and Julie, whose bodies lay in two white coffins.

Outside the church, thousands more watched the ceremony on a large TV screen, and the emotional funeral was broadcast throughout Belgium. Offices and shops in this eastern town were closed in the morning to show support for the dead girls' families.

The funeral continued an ontpouring of grief and horror that began a week ago when two sexually abused girls were found in the cellar of Dutroux's house in Marcinelle.

Dutroux was released from prison in 1992 after serving only part of a 13-year sentence for raping five under-age girls. His case has revealed shortcomings in

Belgium's justice system. He won early release from prison despite recommendations against it from case workers,

After his release, officials failed to keep tabs on Dutroux, who managed to get a monthly social allowance of 38,000 (NIS 3,600) on the strength of a declaration that prison left him psychologically unable to work.

His case has brought media allegations police ignored tipoffs that Dutroux had resumed kidnapping children after be left prison and started secret cellars to hold young girls before selling them abroad.

The case of Melissa and Inlie is particularly heart-wrenching because police searched Dutroux' house twice last year but failed to find the two, who likely were hidden in the cel-

Durroux told police the girls probably starved to deain because a friend, Bernard Weinstein, failed to feed them while he was in jail on an unrelated theft charge. Dutroux said he killed Weinstein, whose body police found alongside

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Hussein: **Riots** harmed Jordan's image

AMMAN (Reuter) - King Hussein told Jordan's parliament yesterday that weekend riots against higher bread prices had harmed Jordan's image as a stable country and allowed its enemies to

gloat. The recent events allowed our enemies to gloat and allowed them to get at what they wanted," he told the 80-seat lower house summoned to the palace as part of efforts to contain the crisis after the worst unrest since 1989.

"What happened had a negative impact on years of what we tried to build to tell the world that Jordan is an oasis of stability," he added.

"But the image, as you saw on worldwide media, was pictures of an unstable country...we provided them with material to talk about us as they do not want good for this country.

The king antagonized many Jordanians on Saturday when he suspended the summer session of parliament, where a majority of deputies opposed the price rise. He vowed an "iron fist" policy against unrest, which erupted in the southern city of Karak after Friday prayers and spread to near-

The king's action increased anger at Prime Minister Abdel-Karim Kabariti, who ignored parliament's views and pushed ahead with his bread decision.

The king said he backed popular demands to reevaluate the country's democratic, political and economic experience to define the problems and challenges that force us to take bitter and painful decisions". He also praised Kabariu, 46.

and his team of generally younger politicians whom he entrusted when they took over in February with initiating administrative reforms and ending apathy common in the bloated civil service. GOA: BIRTHDAY OF HASSIDUT SEMINAR

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ANC apologizes for human rights abuses in struggle against apartheid

INSISTING that its cause was just, President Nelson Mandela's African National Congress admitted yesterday that some of the means used in its struggle against apartheid were inexcusable.

The public apology before a commission investigating the human rights abuses that characterized the apartheid era came a day after the National Party made a similar confession. While it was never policy to attack civilians or to abuse suspected spies,

the ANC admitted in a 300-page submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that "excesses did occur."

"The ANC has acknowledged that in a number of instances breaches in policy did occur, and deeply regrets civilian casualties," the party said in the document presented by a 23-member delegation, headed by Deputy

נפלח עמרת ראשנו

We mourn the loss of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend

MURRAY J. RICK

Wife: Shoshana Rick Children and grandchildren: Alisa and Dani Zev

Estee, Sara, Aryeh Abby and Mordy Hurwich-Kehat Ronni, Benji, Avri, Shai Amy and Reuven Della-Torre

Brothers: Sidney and Philip Rick (New York) and countless friends in the United States and Israel

The funeral will take place Saturday night, August 24, 1996, in Jerusalem. For further details please call (02) 678-5458 or (02) 581-7092

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother

HANNAH GREENBAUM

The funeral will take place today, Friday, August 23, 1996, at 1:00 p.m., at Tsomet Morasha cemetery.

> Ruthie, Danny, Yael, Yaniv and Yuval Teltel

The israeli Society of Aerospace Medicine mourns the passing of its longtime member

Dr. MILTON GORDON

His advice and friendship will be sorely missed

To: Shimon and Efraim Linial and their families

We share your deep sorrow at the passing of your beloved

RIVKA 311

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The Management of The Jerusalem Post

German court sentences neo-Nazi Lauck to four years

ANDREW GRAY

HAMBURG

quickly and avoid a long and com-

offenses since 1994. He had

demanded a five-year jail term but

said he was satisfied with the

to produce his swastika-covered

court's sentence.

A HAMBURG court jailed US neo-Nazi leader Gary Lauck for four years yesterday for pumping banned propaganda material into Germany from his US-based publishing house.

A defiant Lauck, from Lincoln, Nebraska, yelled a tirade of abuse at the court after his conviction for inciting racial hatred.

"The struggle will go on," the 43-year-old shouted in German before being escorted out by security guards.

Lauck's lawyer vowed he would appeal against the court's decision, arguing that his client should have been set free because be had not committed any offense under German law.

The conviction was a major coup for prosecutors, who had been trying for years to scnpper Lauck's worldwide network - the main source of antisemitic propaganda material flowing into Germany since the 1970s.

"Lauck possessed a well-oiled propaganda machine, honed during more than 20 years," presiding judge Guenter Bertram told the

India blames West for failure

on test ban treaty

NEW DELHI (AP) - India is trying

to shift blame from itself for scut-

tling a nuclear test ban treaty, say-

ing yesterday the West adopted

double standards and attempted to

India refused to sign a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in

Geneva after the five nuclear pow-

ers - the United States, Russia,

France. Britain and China - refused

to commit themselves to a timetable

India says it can't sign away the

right to make nuclear weapons

because it is trapped in a three-cor-

nered arms race in the Asian Subcontinent. It has to keep up with

China, while Pakistan has to match

"We cannot accept constrains on our option as long as nuclear

weapon states continue to rely on

In his first elaborate statement

after India effectively blocked the

treaty in Geneva, Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral said although

the text was modified to accommo-

date China, negotiators paid scant

not be modified but as we have

seen, the draft text has been modi-

fied to accommodate one country's

We were told that the text could

attention to India's concerns.

concerns," Gujral said.

nuclear arsenals for their security,"

India's capabilities.

Gujral said.

for eliminating their arsenals.

push through a flawed text.

"He set up a propaganda canon and fired it at Germany."

Eager to put Lauck behind bars

Publishing and distributing neo-Nazi material is illegal in Germany but Lauck's defense team had argued that US freedom of speech laws meant he was free

> books, magazines, videos and flags in the United States. Lanck, dressed in a sober blue suit and sporting his trademark Hitleresque black monstacbe, showed no sign of emotion as Bertram spent more than an hour

reading out the verdict and explaining the court's decision. But as he was about to be led away, Lauck turned to reporters and blurted ont a virtually incomprebensible quick-fire diatribe

against the court. Neither the National Socialists (Nazis) nor the communists dared to kidnap an American citizen," he shouted, in an oblique reference to his extradition to Germany.

WASHINGTON (AP) - President

Clinton put his signature yesterday on a historic overhaul of America's

elfare system. He promised the

legislation will "recreate the

nation's social bargain with the

poor" by compelling welfare recip-

In his third White House ceremo-

ny this week, Clinton signed into

law a new state-run network of aid.

ending six decades of guaranteed

federal cash assistance to the poor.

The ceremony, in the Rose Garden of the White House, is the

president's third effort in as many

days to take the headlines away

from Republican rival Bob Dole by

giving a dramatic send-off to high-

profile legislation.
On Tuesday Clinton signed a bill

raising the minimum wage, and on Wednesday he approved a law that

ends the practice of denying health

insurance coverage because of pre-existing medical conditions and

ensures workers access to health

a federal guarantee to the poor that

has existed since the days of

It was denounced by many erst-while Clinton allies. Marian Wright Edelman. president of the

Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, called it a

"moment of shame ... the biggest

But it is expected to appeal to a

betrayal of children and the poor."

broad range of moderate to conser-

President Franklin Roosevelt:

The welfare transformation ends

insurance when they change jobs.

ients to go to work.

"That's the truth."

His attorney, Hans-Otto Sieg, told reporters outside the courtroom that the judges had failed to plex trial, prosecutor Bernd address whether a German court Mauruschat limited his charges to could convict someone for producing propaganda on foreign soil

and sending it to Germany. "You can't just say he set up a propaganda canon and fired it at Germany," Sieg said. "Journalists may be able to write that but it's not a legal point. I still don't see which German law he is supposed to have broken."

Bertram said Lauck was obsessed by Nazism and devoted his life to his National Socialist German Workers' Party Foreign Organization (NSDAP-AO), which derives its name from the full German title of Hitler's Nazi

The court also rejected Sieg's argument that Lauck's extradition from Denmark, where be was arrested in March last year at the regnest of German authorities.

was illegal. Lauck will probably be free in around two and a half years as the court ruled that the 15 months he has spent in custody since his arrest should be subtracted from

his prison term.

Clinton is considering a package

of proposals to ease the burden on

welfare recipients. It includes a pos-

sible tax break for firms that hire

people off welfare rolls and a series

of economic development ideas

aimed at areas with large shares of

The proposals will be unveiled next week at the Democratic

National Convention in Chicago as

part of Clinton's list of initiatives

Clinton twice vetoed Republican

But he agreed to sign the third

version, even though it contained

provisions he opposed, including

deep cuts in child nutrition pro-

grams and tough restrictions on

granting welfare to legal aliens and

Clinton vows to work to repeal these provisions if he wins a second

guarantee of aid to the poor, saving

It sets a lifetime limit of five years

an estimated \$54b. over six years.

of welfare for each family. It requires all able-bodied adults to

work after two years of welfare, but

has a hardship escape hatch for up

to 20 percent of recipients.
Under its terms, the states would

take over management responsibilities, receiving federal block grants

to run welfare programs, as well as

authority to set most of the rules.

welfare proposals, denouncing them as "extremist" plans that

and goals for a second term.

welfare recipients.

would burt children.

their families.

Clinton signs welfare overhaul

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> A Special Offer for readers of THE JERUSALEM POST

A general's fall from power

His top aides have been arrested, and relations with Arafat are tense. Steve Rodan profiles General Nasser Yusef, the Palestine Police commander.

Six months ago, Gen. Nasser Yusef arrived at a Tel Aviv hotel to receive a prize for his efforts for peace and coopera-tion with Israel. He was surrounded hy an unlikely crowd of Israeli left-wing activists and Jewish settlers with beards and kippot. One of the participants, watching the warm reception and the hugging of Israelis and Palestinians, whispered to a colleague: "I wonder how this is playing hack in

Apparently not very well. The 53-year-old general, who then was promoting dialogue and cooperation with Israel, has today fallen from power. He still has his office in the former Civil Administration headquarters in Gaza City, but his authority as commander of the 16.000-member Palestinian police force is in name only. Moreover, two of his aides have been arrested and held without charges in an unknown location in Gaza by Yasser Arafat's Force 17, Palestinian sources say.

Human rights activists, including those from Amnesty International, say Major Ibrahim Farid Shukairi was grabbed hy agents from his office in front of Yusef himself on July 7. Shukairi has been held incommunicado ever since. Also, on July 1, Sgt. Muhammed Ri'fat, the general's driver, disappeared. Both men are said to have been tortured and Palestinian sources say Ri fat may have been killed. Human rights groups say at least seven detainees have died in PA custody since July 1994, apparently of torture.

Palestinian sources, none of

whom agree to he named, now say that both men are being accused of treasoo and espionage and PA investigators suspect that Yusef is involved. The sources say two attorneys, one of them identified as Sami Mikdad, the other, a senior PLO official from Washington, are also in detention in Gaza. "The word is that these people, with Nasser Yusef, were planning some sort of coup," Bassem Eid, a human rights activist who has taken up the case, says. "Let me stress that these are

all just rumors." estinian so Yusef dismiss the assertions. They say the general is a victim of his own success. A university graduate with degrees in history and

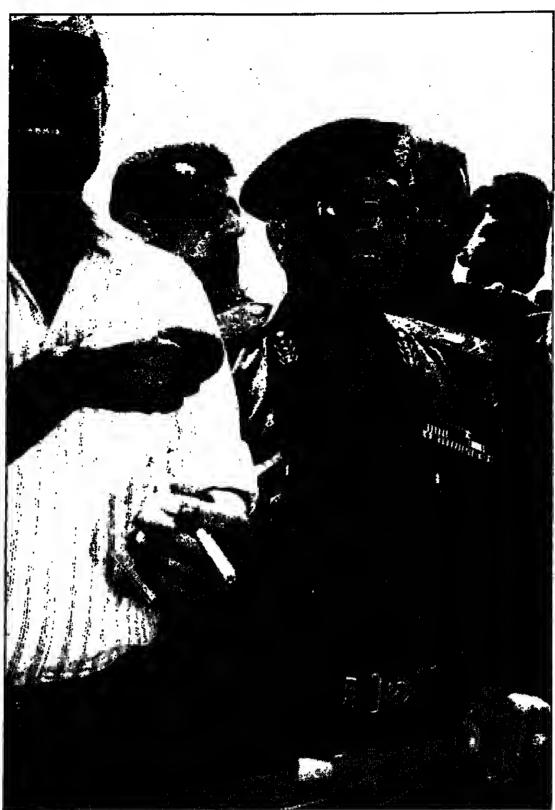
Islamic economy, he has huilt close relations with the Israelis, Americans and other foreigners impressed by his stress on education and democracy. At the same time, he has aroused the jealousy and resentment of other senior PA

At a recent session of the Fatah Central Committee in Cairo. Yusef was criticized for his ties with Jewish settlers. His response was that Palestinians needed to meet a wide spectrum of Israelis, rather than merely those who agree with them. "Nasser Yusef goes up and down," a Palestinian source says. "He has a lot of rivals. He's deeply involved in talks with Hamas because he's one of the few religious men in PA security forces. But because he is an organizational man he made some people around Arafat see him as a threat. They talk to Arafat daily about his meetings with Israeli right-wingers and Hamas."

His meetings, which he has sought not to publicize, have included those with the most nationalist of Jewish settlements in the territories, such as Hebron and Kiryat Arba. "Nasser Yusef is a good friend, with a good soul," says Rabbi Menachem Fruman, a settlement leader from Tekoa, who has speot hours with him at the general's bome in Gaza, "The friendship stems from the fact that for several years I have felt that existence of Jewish settlemeots is a Palestinian interest, and I found somebody in the Palestinian camp - he's not the only one - that helieves the same thing." "He is not against Arafat," the rabhi adds. "He is just stepping ahead of the other Palestinians oo [the issue of] what will be the quality of the state, not just the establishment of the state itself."

LIKE MOST senior PA officials, Yusef's road with Arafat has been a rocky one. In 1994, after Yusef doubled the salaries of police officers from the PA from \$400, Arafat threatened to fire him and replace him with his deputy, Brig. Gen. Ziad Atrash.

Unlike his colleagues, however, Yusef has usually spoken his mind. In an interview with Israel Radio in 1994, months after he assumed office, Yusef said he knew the identities of the killers of two Israelis. "I have no prob-



Nasser Yusef: According to rumors, he was 'planning some sort of coup.'

"However, have not received any agreements with Arafat, the generinstructions [to do so]."

al always sought permission for light in Israel as well as the kidevery step he took. The problem, apping and death of IDF soldier along with the heads of other they recall, is that Arafat would later deny that he gave the green light, "Nasser did oot do anything security forces, asked Arafat many times for permission to arrest and even kill Hamas terrorists. The answer was always no. Sources

in his life without the permission of Arafat," a source close to the general says. "Indeed, Nasser is afraid of Arafat. But Arafat may have asked him to do something and then embarrassed him Arafat and then embarrassed him. Arafat does this often."

By March, however, Yusef's relatioos with Arafat underwent serious strains. Sources close to

the geoeral say the argument regarding Mohammed Deif, the

lem arresting, them, he said close to Yosef say despite dis...... Hamas terrorist who is suspected-Nachshon Wachsman in 1994. One source says when Arafat dismissed Yusef's proposal to arrest Deif, the general offered his resignation. The source says Arafat did

nation. The source says Ararat and not respond.

Since then, the sources say, Yusef's authority has been steadily reduced. More and more of his authority went to Atrash in Gaza, who reports straight to Arafat. In Judea and Samaria, Brig. Gen. Haj Ismail consolidated his power and stropped even coordinating with stopped even coordinating with Yusef. "He is updated with what is

going on," a Palestinian security source says, "but usually after it

At the same time, Yusef's rivals tried to exploit the tensions with Arafat to oust the general from his post. Those tensions increased after the Israeli election and the ascent of the Likud-led government. Yusef, given permission by Arafat, held several meetings with Likud leaders, while Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu refused to meet the PA chief. Palestinian sources say Yusef's rivals found their opportunity last month when PA security services revealed at least one plot to overthrow Arafat.

Mahmoud Abbas, known as Abu Mazen and No. 2 in the PA, says several conspiracies were uncovered but Palestinian security sources say Arafat never felt under real threat.

Still, Arafat's trusted bodyguards decided to act. Force 17 deputy commander Faisal Abu Sharah ordered Yusef's offices raided and Shukairi arrested. Palestinian sources recall Yusef tried to prevent Shukairi's arrest and contact Arafat, who was then abroad.

The general also warned Force 17, Arafat's praetorian guard, that he would expose the corruption of the PA, a threat he never carried out. To Yusef's rivals, Shukairi was

the link between the general and the international community. Fluent in several languages, including Hebrew and English, the major introduced to his commander diplomats, industrialists and politicians from around the world.

YEHUDA Wachsman was said to have been the last Israeli to have seen Shukairi. He traveled to Gaza last month to visit Yusef and ask him for help in finding the killer of his son, Nahshon, kidnapped and slain in September 1994 by Hamas. Israeli and Palestinian security sources say the gang that killed Nahshon as well as carried out several suicide bus bombings was led hy Mohammed Deif.

Wachsman recalls that Shukairi was the interpreter for the general, who spoke in Arabic. 'I had the impression that he [Shukairi] very much wanted to have contact with Jewish people," he says. "He is a Palestinian patriot who wants to see an independent Palestinian state living in peace and cooperation aloogside Israel."

Yusef told Wachsman that he cannot do anything against Deif. Participants at the meeting recall that Shukairi, departing from his translation of the general, added that the PA had warned all of the

security services to leave Deif alone. "He knows where many Hamas people are, including Deif," Wachsman says. "But he had an order not to hurt him."

Since then, Shukairi and Rif at have been held incommunicado. Some Palestinian sources assert that Shukairi has been accused of cooperating with US authorities quietly investigating the possibility of demanding the extradition of those PLO terrorists alleged to have participated in the 1985 abduction of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro and the death of US citizen Leon Klinghoffer. US officials confirm that an investigation has begun into Palestinians living io Gaza suspected of being involved in the Achille Lauro

The PA has refused a delegation from Amnesty International that has expressed concern that the two men are being tortured or starved. "Numerous requests for information, including requests by Amnesty International delegates io Gaza, have failed to elicit any official information as to the whereabouts of the two men," an Amnesty communique said last week. "At one time, they were said to be detained in Ramallah. Now they are said to be held in Gaza by Force 17."

New aides have come to replace Shukairi and Ri'fat and Yusef's availability has sharply declined. Meetings with Israelis were cancelled at the last minute, with his aides usually providing the expla-

Privately, however, Yusef continues to speak out. He has close ties to many in the Fatah Central Committee and its recent meeting predicted serious problems in the rival Palestinian security services. Yesterday, he was scheduled to meet Arafat, who returned from Tunis to discuss what the general feels is a campaign against him. At the same time, he is also preparing to travel to Jordan for an indefinite period,

Some Palestinian security sources predict Yusef will eventually bounce back the way other close aides to Arafat did.

But they are not as certain whether his aides will share the same fate. Irwin Cotler, a human rights attorney and professor at McGill University in Montreal, has offered to represent Shukairi. But his family has rejected the

request, saying the major is in no danger, "Part of the problem," hegins Cotler, "is that malike the former-Yugoslavia, Western governments have not linked here peace and human rights issue

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Derek Fattal and Ori Lewis discover what motivates the National League's first Arab soccer team

The home ground

There's not a single green blade of grass in sight, just bone-dry clumps of growth amidst bare dusty topsoil, stretching from one

goalmouth to the other. "It's no longer possible for our first team to

even train here, we're now taking them to Wingate." Abdul Rahman

Haj Yihye, chairman of Hapoel Taiba soccer club does not reveal a hint of concern as he speaks. His nonchalant attitude suggests that the

In fact Taiba, the first Israeli-Arab side to win promotion to the country's premier division, the National League, faces its opening

As the facilities at the 2,500-capacity municipal ground do not meet

the Israel Football Association's minimum standard for National

League play, Taiba's home matches will be played in Netanya for the

first half of the coming season. "Our board is due to discuss in the

next few days, with the town council, whether to refurbish the ground

or to build a new stadium at another site," says Haj Yihye who estimates construction costs of around NIS 5 million. The money would

undoubtedly be well spent, as the current ground looks, it blends well into the surroundings - the rubbish tip. The dressing rooms make the toilets at Tel Aviv's old bus station lonk luxurious.

Haj Yihye explains that the pitch was ruined after the water supply

failed six days earlier. "It's just one of those things. It wasn't even

anyone's fault. The two supply pumps to this area of the town broke down at the same time. I can't make a big fuss about it when people

in the neighborhood do not even have drinking water at the moment."

beginning of the new league season is months away.

league match against Ironi Rishon Lezion tomorrow.

Nevertheless, Abdul Rahman

maintains an almost cocky air of

confidence. Since this owner of a

carpentry business became trea-

surer of Hapoel Taiba soccer club

on a voluntary basis in 1987, the club has never been relegated -

the only way bas been up. "When

I took over we were facing relega-

tion to the Fourth Division. We

needed nine points from our five remaining games, of course, we

Hapoel Taiba, founded in 1961,

duly performed the required

escape act winning all five games

and taking a maximum of 10

points (at that time only two points were awarded for a win as

opposed to today's three). At the

end of the 1992-93 season the club

won promotion to the Secood

Division. Two years ago its mixed

Arab-Jewish squad almost squeezed into the top flight, but

lost out in the end-of-season playoffs. Last year the club dominated

the Secood Division for the whole

season, winning its place in the

National League weeks before the

Promotion has brought unprece-

deoted media attention to the club.

Now a member of the country's

sporting elite, its progress is being

covered by the Hebrew press,

campaign ended.

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ADDRESS

F SPORT often mirrors life, (and never more so than with soccer, regarded across the world as the "people's game"), then Hapoel Taiba's progress perhaps reflects the mainstreaming of the Arab sector into Israeli society.

The clubs' present ground, on a hill overlonking this Arab town of 28,000, in the Sharon agricultural belt has been its home for the last 10 years. Sited adjacent to an open rubbish up, the "stadium" is, in the view of club chairman Abdul Rahman Haj Yihye, "a disgrace to Israeli football and Israeli soci-

alongside top clubs like Maccabi Tel Aviv and Betar Jerusalem. In past few weeks international crews have flooded into the town. There is little doubt that the team will make a big impact on the league, even if it is only for political reasons. Simply because they are an Arab side, Israeli police will be especially vigilant

Wherever Taiba play.

The success of the club mirrors a new coofident mood in the town and the Israeli-Arab community generally. Taiba has had its fair share of problems over the years and people are well aware of the

O.L. and D.F.

relative discrimination they have

suffered both socially and eco-

nomically, as a result of the tradi-

tional gulf separating Jew and

Nevertheless, rather than dwell

on the past, the people behind

Hapoel Taiba are intent on looking

forward to a better future as fully-

Raek Yassin, a devout Moslem

and member of the club's board comments: "What's past is past.

I'm a loyal citizen, and all I and

other people who live here ask for

In his view, soccer rather than

Islam unites the townsfolk, and

has brought about a positive

change within Taiba. "Four years

ago we had a drugs and crime epi-

demic here. There were dealers on

nearly every street corner. Since

the club was promoted [to the

Second Division], the drug prob-lem has decreased by around 40

percent as our youth have become

attached to the club and the game.

Hapoel Taiba bas become a part of

Yassin argues that a common

problem in towns and villages in

the Arab sector is that the vast

majority of available land is pri-

vately owned. Poor municipal

is to be treated the same. For

Israel is my country."

their lives."

Arab in Israel.

fledged Israelis.

government exacerbates the situation making it harder to plan, build or manage proper civil amenities. Apart from soccer, there is oo other outlet for the youth, there is no cinema, oo park or other recreational facility to speak of. Soccer is the only game in town - which partly explains the fanatical fol-lowing for Hapoel Taiba.

OUTSIDE the community, it is not uncommon for most Israelis to still consider Taiba a no-go area, and some Jews continue to relate to their fellow-Arab countrymen as being the enemy within. With this sort of image problem, it is not difficult to understand why the taunts and cries of "death to the Arabs" are beard on the terraces at soccer matches involving the clnb. Two weeks ago, the Taiba fans traveled to Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium where Betar fans taunted them with that same abusive lan-

Rami, a transportation contractor and another member of the Haj. Ythye clan which numbers thousands in the town, is completely unfazed by such behavior. "It's something that happens in football, it just doesn't bother me," he said. The problem also occurred last season when Taiba was similarly jibed by some Kiryat Shmona supporters at an away game. The following week, Taiba supporters chanted "death to the Jews" when the team played against Maccabi Acre - the incideot received significant press

Although the Israel Foothall Association issued a condemnation against racism two weeks ago, oo special steps have been taken to cope with the outhursts. Abdul Rahman feels that the phenomenon is one which will sort itself out with time, and that such behavior - however unpleasant is best not blown out of context. Another supporter, Karem Haj Yihye, reckons that there will only be a couple of matches at which the taunts might be repeated and violence could erupt, but he is looking forward to the good things be expects the season to bring. Things changed for us with the peace process. There's been a different atmosphere since then, it has strengthened our feeling as Israelis," says Karem, be also points out that it has made him and

deut as Arabs: when we were working as wanters at hotels and would be embarrassed to speak Arabic in front of Jews. Now I wouldn't think twice

For Rafat Haj Yinye, a nigh school geography teacher, peace is oow a fact. "Once, we identified with the Palestinians, now we have no connection with them. The closure means they never come here, we have no contact with them.'

None of the clan follow Palestinian sport, and the Palestinian issue oo longer has any bearing on their national attitudes or identity. Likewise, Palestinian acquaintances have no interest in the club. When quizzed about the national side, Karem assertively respoods, "Look, we support Israel as much as Hapoel Taiba. I went to all the Europeao [Championship] games over the last couple of years.

Karem then begins bemoaning the national squad's recent pathetic display in Romania earlier and the consensus of opinion is that the chances of qualifying for the World Cup, with the likes of can adjust to life in the big time. Bulgaria and Russia being the They are aiming for a place in the main contenders, are very slim. He top ten and will pay out bonuses to

remembers the days when Zahi Armeli and Rifat Turk played in the national blue and white colors and bopes that there will be another representative from the Arab sector in the national team before too long.

SUPPORT for the club is not confined to the town says Abdul Rahman, "The club has become a beacon for the whole Israeli-Arab sector. Arab fans come to games from the Negev. and the Galilee. The Israeli-Arab community wants success for us." Abdul Rahman believes that Jews will also become drawn to the club as the season progresses and Taiba's attractive methodical game attracts new suupporters.

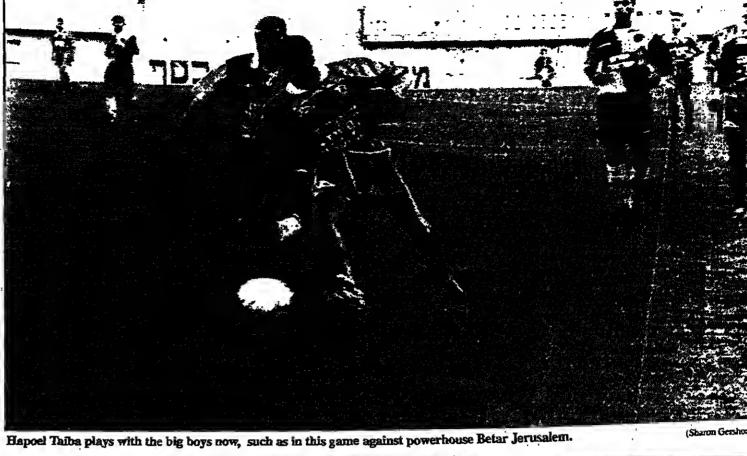
In Taiba and the surrounding area, the support is particularly keen. Ordinary people regularly donate money to the club through door-to-door collections.

This season the club has an his contemporaries more confiperating budget of NIS 53 mil-"There was a time in the past - tion which is made up of the usual grants from the IFA, the Sportoto pool, the Hapoel organization and sponsorship and broadcast rights. NIS 1.5 million of the budget comes from the Taiba municipali-

But the clob still needs to attract a major sponsor. Abdul Rahman does not feel that there is a multimillionaire patron in the Arab community who can do for the club what millionaires Rubie Shapira or Ya'acov Shahar have done for soccer in Haifa.

Over the summer, Taiba signed a new coach, Wojtek Lazarek from Poland. Lazarek previously coached Hapoel Kfar Sava several years ago and he has also had experience coaching in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Two oew Jewish players bave been contracted, attacker Sahar Mizrahi from Bnei Yebuda, and goalkeeper Mickey Dahan, who took the opportunity to move back to the National League. Taiba has also signed two foreign players, one a Pole, the

other a Romanian. Despite the problems, the Taiba board is confident that the club can adjust to life in the big time.





When Taiba plays, everyone in town gets invloved, including Mayor Rafik Haj Yihye (standing).

top five. Abdul Rahman feels what has happened to the club is the culmination of correct planning over the years and a commitment

to playing positive soccer. Despite the team's Arab background, he feels that it is just another outfit amongst a group of

to. He sees coming apporting or strange about an Arab club finally making it into the National League. Just as Arabs are now an integral

part of Israeli society, in his view they are now taking their rightful place in the game. If the upbeat Taiba fans have

their way, it won't be long before the side is making it's mark further afield than Israel. Karem and his friends predict that within two years upwardly mobile Hapoel Taiba will be representing the country in the European Cup, and standing to attention while Hatikva is played.

Taiba mayor keeps club close to his heart

APOEL Taiba's most famous supporter is the town's mayor, Rafik Haj Yihye, who is the eighth member of the team's management The charismatic and often controversial mayor can

always be found in the thick of the action, and is often on the management bench when the team is playing. When the team were stranded at Lamaca airport on their return from a training camp in Poland, Rafik took charge of the situation. "I made a couple of phone calls to get things moving and we had planes sent to pick us up," he said after the passengers' ordeal in which the LOT airlines plane made an emergency landing in Cyprus following a bomb scare. After the plane was cleared to continue its jouroey to Ben Garion Airport, many passengers, including the whole of the Taiba squad and their mayor,

refused to get back on the plane and were left behind

The tall, lean Rafik does not hide his senuments for the club. And when, in the middle of last season, a match against Hapoel Ramat Gan was stopped in controversial circumstances, Haj Yihye began undressing in front of the TV cameras, saying that

to fend for themselves.

those who wanted to see Hapoel Taiba fail in their promotion bid would first bave to draw blood from his body. Haj Yihye's town still has many election posters and stickers on walls and lamp posts, not surprisingly, they do not have any connection with the present government. Pictures of Shimon Peres and green

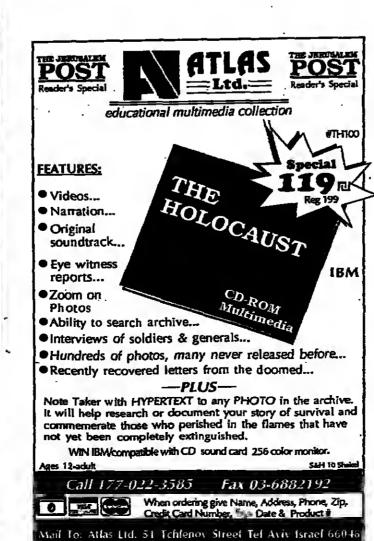
Meretz suckers are the most common. Rafik was No. 36 on the Labor Knesset list, but failed to win his seat. He was also previously shortlisted to become Israel's first-ever Arab ambassador, but his appointment to the post in Finland was never confirmed. O.L. and D.F.

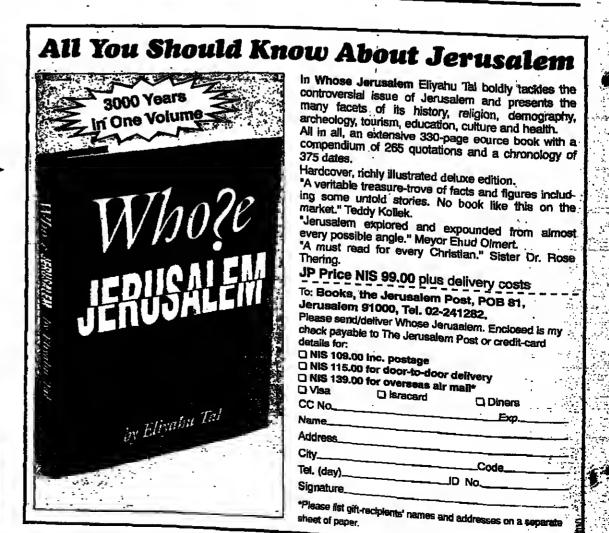


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The 'ugly Israeli' is a failure of Zionism

T'S so depressing that i ca finally understand an uncle of mie, who years in this country. "I should have gone to Dakota and lived with he Red Indians instead.

Jerusalem Post

(Sharon Face)

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I'm not referring to the visitor from abroad who, as usual, have beer dropping m on me all summer, making bash of my work schedule and causingme to regret that I didn't go abroad effore they did. Old friends, school accasintances, professional colleagues, saild-hood playmates, second cousins neeremoved, people who don't know me but have some my proper to the control of the con but have gotten my number from pupile who do - all coming from somewere, and on their way to somewhere, and wanting me to make time for them. They're bad enough, but they're no as bad as the stories I've been hearing

from them. "...So there we were in a hotel in he Scottish highlands, really off the beato track, and when I told the hotel owners we were Jewish, they didn't believe t. 'But you're notat all like Israelis,' thy said. 'You're nice.'

"...We wanted to rent a van to drive down from Hanoi, six or seven of us. 'I hope there are no Israelis among you, the Vietnamese who ran the agency said. 'If there are, I won't rent to you.'

"...It happened m Katmandu. I was waiting for a plane to Delhi. There were some Israelis talking on the street and I tried out what little Hebrew 1 know on them. Afterwards a Nepali came up to me and said: "You shouldn't talk to those Israel people.' 'Why not?' I asked. And he answered, 'Because all Israel people are bad."

Even we Israelis agree. Some neighbors of ours have just gotten back from a resort in Egypt, one of those exclusive snorkel-and-eat-yourself-sick places on the Red Sea Coast. They couldn't stop telling us what a good time they had had.
"And the best part of it," said the busband, "was that no other Israelis were

Well, you can put that down to snobbism or even Jewish self-harred. And if they don't like us in Scotland, the Scots are Christians and we all know what Christians think of Jews. But the

HILLEL HALKIN

Nepalese? the Vietnamese? The Japanese, whose border police have routine orders to keep Israelis out of their country? These are peoples living in parts of the world where oo one has ever heard of Jews, where there was never the slightest tradition of anti-

If they already feel this way about us after a few years of exposure to Israeli tourism, the overwhelmingly discouraging thought occurs to one: Perhaps the antisemites were right all along. Perhaps we Jews are simply an intolerable people and always have been. Perhaps reestablishing a Jewish state after thousands of years, rather than cure us of the traits that have made us such an annoyance to the rest of mankind, has concentrated and heightened these traits even more. Perhaps the whole project is hopeless - because the more of us crowded together in one place, the worse we become.

Yes, I know that we have our redeeming features. We may strike others as being loud, pushy, clannish, arrogant, aggressive, argumentative, oosey, tactless, impolite, inconsiderate, and exploitative, but we are also open, direct, beloful, mutually supportive, enterprising, curious, emotional, spontaneous, frank, intelligent, and caring. "Shall I define an Israeli for you?" a friend of mine once suggested. "An Israeli is

someone who will break your leg while trying to get ahead of you in a bus queue, and who will then pick you up and carry you on his back to the hospital." And a young Israeli who spent a year backpacking around India once told me: "I guess it's true that no one there much liked us. We had a reputation for putting ourselves first. But you know, whenever backpackers from other countries got into trouble - English, Americans, French, German, it didn't matter - it was

always to us that they turned for belp.

We were always the ones who knew all the angles, who weren't afraid, who were willing to try anything. Go to the Israelis, they're the ones who can get you out of it,' was something of a slo-

It is certainly true that most of the ways in which we Israelis behave towards others are also the ways in which we behave towards ourselves, and that just as there are some people whose best characteristics are glimpsed by outsiders sooner than their worst ones, so with us it is the other way around. Jews have always paid more attention to substance than form. We have even tended to be contemptuous of form as goyish devices for covering up lack of content, and yet it is form that invariably first strikes the eye. Deep down we know that we aren't as bad as we first seem to others. Deep down, too, though, we know that "the ugly Israeli" who always thinks he knows best, who cannot talk without shouting, who cannot buy without haggling, and who is constantly on the lookout for what he can get away with is a reality that does

not make a generally favorable impres-

Sometimes 1 think that our peculiarly martyrological history has a lot to do with it. It has not only made us as a peo-ple utterly cynical of the pious phrases of mankind, it has given us a kind of group absolution to do whatever we think is necessary to advance our own interests, whether these are as broad as those of a nation acting in the international arena, or as narrow as those of a single one of us using his elbows at home or abroad. No one will preach to us; no one will make of us freiers. To him who does not take, nothing will be given - this is very much our philosophy of life.

But you cannot expect a Vietnamese or Nepali to understand all this. "For God's sake," said a summer visitor, "you people have to do something, hand ont brochures at the airport, screen movies on etiquette on all flights leaving Israel, make every Israeli wanting to go abroad take a compulsory course in acceptable international behavior. You think the wholo world is against you? Just wait until it really is."

Never say 'Sorry'

ONITORING the news media and pointing out their errors is little more than an exercise infintility. Unless clear libel is involved, extremely rare is the writer, editor or pub-lisher who will admit publicly to having committed a factual error that distorted the significance of an article, and then publish an

apology or a correction. You certainly will not get them to admit that they deliberately perpetrated a distortion – by falsi-fying or rearranging he facts, or by omitting facts that cast a par-ticular light on the subject.

Almost equally rare \$ the occasion when radio and television audiences and newspaper and magazine readers will act on a matter the media monitor raises act to the extent of contacting those responsible to priss them for a public correction.

Rarer yet is the occasio when the listener or reader vill stop reading a recidivist newsaper or magazine and eveo writes letter to the publisher saying by, or stop tuning in to a radio ottelevision program and stop duating to the offending "public" network and write to tell them why

One can only hope that the peo-ple fed those errors, lies and distortions also read or hear the corrections and stop relying on the

lying sources.

MARTIN LACKNER of Los Angeles, has sent me a chy of his letter to National Geographic (NG) magazine canceling hs subscription of nearly half a century. The last straw, he said, was their "Syria Behind the Mask" atticle io their July issue, by leter Theroux, a Long Beach, California free-lance writer and translator of Arabic fiction.

I bave read the article: it rads largely like one of those newpaper travelogues paid for by the subject, depicting terror-aiddrug-exporting Syria as virtually a developing paradise.

Unfortunately for NG, this whitewash of Syria comes afer the mess the magazine made if "The Three Faces of Jerusalen" in its April issue, written by No editorial-staff member Alan Mairson.

One of the main shortcoming of the latter article is that by a little White Lie, it presents the Jewish, Christian and Moslem affinities and claims to and in Jerusalem as equal: one third to each. For example, Mairson

"The Bible says that Abraham, drove the money changers from the Temple and bere that the Prophet Muhammad ascended to Heaven to meet God, according PETER THEROUX'S "Syria Review and Analysis.)

MOSHE KOHN

to scripture..."

Wohammed's vision of an asjent to Heaven from Jerusalem is not according to any Scripture. It is a later interpretation of the Karan's "Night Journey" sura. Indeed, as cannot be repeated too ofen, Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, what Moslems call the Haram a-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary), are never - never mentioned in the Koran.

Furthermore, for Moslems, Jerusalem - rather, the Dome of the Rock - comes after Mecca and Medina. Christians also have Bethlehem and Nazareth (and 1.1 billion Catholics bave Rome, Lourdes, etc.). For Jews' Jerusalem is first and foremost, followed by Hebron.

In any case, Jerusalem is oot merely the site of three events of equal religious significance to the adherents of those three faiths. It also has been, ever since David made it the capital of the United Kingdom of Israel three millennia ago, the secular center of the sovcreign Jewisb state, today the. State of Israel, the religious and political cynosure of the Jewish

The Western Wall is not "the holiest spot of Judaism." That status is belongs solely to the Temple Mount. The Western Wall is only a section of the mount's me wall built by Herod when he widened the mount's area with earth-fill. It is "holy" only because the authorities forbid Jews to pray on the Temple

At the Wall, Mairson seems to have seen only "A sea of men in black snits and white prayer shawls..." Anyone who has been to the Wall knows that the coloration is much more variegated than that.

It is high time, too, for the public to know that the Mea Sbe'arim neighborhood is oot merely "an enclave of Hassidic families," and that not everybody who wears a black suit and black hat is a Hassid. Such garb is characteristic of oearly all people identified as haredim, including those of the Lithuanian mitnagdic (anti-Hassidic) tradition, and also Sepbardim who attended Hassidie or mitnagdic yeshiv-OL.

As for the events of 1948, as usual in such writing, the Arabs didn't launch a war against Israel with the intention of throttling it almost sacrificed his son Isaac at birth. All that happened was here... It was here that Jesus, that "The Arabs rejected the [UN partition proposal], and... the fighting began..."

Behind the Mask" story opens with a two-page photo captioned: "Bullhorns and razor wire edge a Syrian-beld fragment of the Golan Heights, where a family of

in Israeli-occopied territory 500 yards away...

Nowhere is there mention of the fact that visits across that "razor wire" take place, and would take place with even greater ease and frequency if the Syrian leadership could swallow hard, and accept Israel as a human, this-worldly being and the truth about how the relations between our two coun-

Druze shout greetings to relatives

tries came to be what they are. But they are encouraged by writers like Theroux to go on basking in their illusions. How do we bappen to be in the Golan? For no stated reason we "had begun its occupation in 1967, after defeating Syria in the Six Day War." As usual, that war (like the 1948 war) was oot launched or provoked by our neighbors, with the aim of destroying us, it

just happened. And Syrian President Hafez al-Assad is a peace lover. We have the word of none other than the President of Syria's several-

score-strong Jewish community, Yousef Jajati. Theroux asked him bow Syria's Jews had fared during the various Arab-Israeli wars throughout this

Jajati: "We were safe. But we fared much better after the 'corment that brought Assad to power in 1970 - P.T.)... I thank Presidents Clinton and Assad and everyone who wants peace... I have visited Assad and talked about peace, and I felt his desire for it. He knows Syrians want peace. We want it soon. We want it today! I would like to have peace with Israel this after-

Peace is his and Assad's for the having, if only Assad would stop fostering and exporting terror, and if be would abandoo bis demand for Israel's surrender of the entire Golan and "West Bank" on the basis of the fictitious "land for peace formula."

That "formula" does not appear in any of the basic negotiating documents, certainly not in the October 10, 1991 joint US-Russian "Madrid Iovitation," which is the basis for Israeli-Syrian negotiations. What is repeated again and again is the 1967 UN Resolution 242, which does not call for Israel's withdrawal to the 1949 armistice

(With thanks to Dr. Aaron Lerner of Ra' anana, co-director of IMRAIIndependent Media

SRULIK

WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED

ABOUT TODAY ?



ABOUT THE DECLINE OF

HOTIVATION TO STAVE IM

THE ARMY, AND MAINLY



VERN BAD, GET BALK TO

by DOSH



The Almighty waits for our return

"...Her former husband who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she is defiled, for that is an abomination before God..." (Deut. 24:4)

OW secure can we, the people of Israel, be, that despite our backsliding, there is always room for repen-tance? Perhaps our stiff-necked resistance to God and our dalliances with other "isms" will

preclode His wanting us back

en we are finally ready to

return? One of the most powerful para-digms there is for the relationship between God and the Jewish people is that of marriage. The Song of Songs, extolled by the Sages as the holiest work in the Torah, breathes with sensual verses declaring the love between God and His beloved, the nation of Israel

Every morning, as we bind the leather straps of our t'fillin around our arms in preparations for prayer, we encircle the middle fingers of the left hand three times. like three rings, and recite a mar-riage vow to God. "I will betroth you to me forever, and I will betroth you to me in righteousness, and in judgment... and I will betroth you to me in faithfulness....." (Hosea 2:21 22)

From a mystical point of view, God as busband and the Jewish people as bride, is how the Zohar interprets the events which mark the revelation at Sinai, with Mt. Sinai held over the Israelites as the wedding canopy and the Ten Commandments as the ketuba, the marriage contract. And every Sabbath Day, as evidenced by the Lecha Dodi (Come My Beloved Bride) prayer-song chanted and danced in the presence of the rising Sabbath moon, is a reenact-

Wherever we turn, - the Bible, the Prayer Book, the Festivals we find the model of our relatioship with God as that of bride to groom. Bot one of the forces threatening to shatter the efficacy of this imagery can be found in this week's portioo, Ki Tetze, where we read that a man cannot remarry a woman he's God.

divorced if in the meantime she married someone else, that marriage also ending in divorce or widowbood. True, she can marry, but not a re-

act the Torah maintains would be an "...abomination before God." (Deut, 24:4) It stands to reason that if this is an abomination, what can we say about out-and-out adultery! And indeed, Jewish law declares the adulterous woman to be forbidden both to her husband and to her lover.

prayers, of the power of Yom Kippur, and of the entire Messianic drama of return and redemption?

taken back by God after having

SHLOMO RISKIN

ment of the sacred marriage

between God and Israel.

marriage to her first husband, an

In our paradigm of the relationship of Israel to the Divine as a marriage, Israel's pursuit of false gods and idols must be viewed as adulterous betrayals. In accordance with this week's Torah reading, our immoral actions must result in reodering us for-bidden to God as an "abomination." How then can we account for the possibility of repentance and forgiveness, the most fundamental theme of our daily Amida

THIS SUBJECT of our being

betrayed Him, is a thorny theological issue, dealt with by the various prophets in different ways. Isaiah speaks of the return of a faithful remnant, "... for out of Jerusalem shall a remnant go out. and they that escape out of Mt. Zion..." (37:32) It is only this remnant, the minority of the nation

Ezekiel understands the Jews being taken back as a theological oecessity, for God's sake if not for Israel's. 'Therefore say to the bouse of Israel, thus says the Lord God, I do not do this for your

sakes... but for My holy name's

which never betrayed God, which

sake..." (Ezek. 36: 22-24) Since we are closely linked to God, His eternity is reflected in the eternity of this people. Were we to disappear from the world stage, the God in whose Name we are to present our message-mission would likewise become a mere footnote to Israel. And the enemies of Israel also the enemies of God - would emerge victorious.

But perhaps the clearest reason wby God will always take the Jewish people back is to be found in a number of verses at the beginning of Genesis (Chapter 15) and these also reflect an additional paradigm for the relationship between God and Israel. God enters into a "covenant" with Israel - and a covenant, unlike a contract, can never be revoked.

This Divine covenant, or eternal guarantee, comes in answer to Abraham's agonizing question of God after be has been promised an heir and the Land of Israel as an everlasting possession. "But how do I know that they will inherit it,"

asks the patriarch, and Nahmanides interprets Abraham's question as an expression of his fear lest his descendants not be

worthy of the land. The Divine response, His coveoant with Abraham, serves to cement the eternity of the relationship; that despite temporary ruptures and alienation-exiles, there will be an ultimate rapprochement and return. We are the people of God's covenant, the beneficiaries of a relationship with the Divine which can never be broken. Hence within our sacred literature and liturgy we find not only the para-

The groom-bride relationship bespeaks of passion; the parentchild relationship guarantees eternity. A parent can never divorce a child.

digm of God and Israel as Lover to

beloved, but also of Parent to

We may well be excited by a God-Israel relationship akin to Groom-bride, replete with passion and equalized with mutuality; but we can always be comforted by a God-Israel relationship akin to Parent-child, secure in the knowledge that despite our immoral hacksliding, the God of the Covenant waits with outstretched arms for us to return to an everready embrace.

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MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer Neither side vulnerable

> North **≜K** ♥987 **♦**K642 **♣**AQ842

41076

South ♠ A 1032 ♥Q5 **♣**KJ9

West North East South 3♠ 3 NT (all pass)

Opening lead: ♠ Q

THE Junior and Schools Championships of Europe, which were held at the University of Wales, in Cardiff, last month, were hailed by all the young players as a great success.

Teams were grouped by country. Winner of the Junior event (ages 25 and under), in which 26 countries took part, was Norway, followed by Russia in second place and Denmark third.

The ton three teams in this event qualified for the World Junior Championships next summer in Canada, Israel was fourth and might take the place of Russia in the World Championships if the Russian team cannot raise funds for the trip. The Israeli team included Aran Varshavski, Nir Katz, Assaf Amit, Yaniv Zack, Amir Levin and Eran

Mermelstein. In the Schools event (high school division), involving 14 countries, first place went to Germany, with Israel second and Great Britain third. The Israeli silver medalists were Shiri Faur, Yochai Guisky, Asa

Levinger, Nadav Ron, Ran

Schneider and Yaniv Wax. TODAY'S deal comes from a match in the Schools Championship between the Netherlands and Russia. The South player was awarded the best play of the championship. The bidding, or in this

the success of the final contract: The main error occurred on the very: first call by East, when he passed in first seat. East's failure to

ACROSS

1 One providing personal

cover for his customers (9)

6 Plant part pales out of

9 Drive into rickety cart, an

10 Removing a burden? (9)

11 Coming from German

12 He was killed stone dead!

13 Still suffocating because of

18 Stop being watertight (7)

river, damaged ber shin (7)

recognition (5)

old vehicle (7)

it? (3.1.6.2.3)

=

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SEL

roor VIV/

case the lack of bidding, was key to

start with a preemptive opening in hearts left his partner in the dark about the heart suit.

East, if he felt daring, might have started with a bid of three hearts or a more prosaic weak two-bid in

One of the finest definitions of the weak two-bid applies here. It comes from Ira Rubim, a great rubber bridge player in New York and former world champion. "The purpose of a weak two-bid is to get the suit into the bidding before you don't have a chance."

After East's pass, South opened the bidding one diamond and West overcalled two spades. West's preempt created a problem for North, who wanted to show diamond support and force to game. He solved the problem by cuebidding three spades. South now bid three notrump, and this became the final contract.

Perhaps by now the reader has noticed that the defense can take the first six heart tricks against three notrump. But remember, East never showed his hearts! West led the queen of spades, won in dummy by force with the king.

Declarer could count seven top winners, two spades and five clubs, and could envision some diamond tricks after dislodging the ace. However, there was an obvious hole in the heart suit. If declarer attacked diamonds, wouldn't the defenders attack hearts? Niek Brink, sitting South, found a psychological solution to this problem.

In order to discourage the defenders from cashing heart tricks, he decided to attack the suit himself! At trick two, he called for a heart from dummy and, when East played low, South put up the queen.

West, under the impression that declarer had just taken a heart finesse, won the king of hearts and continued spades, hoping his partner held the ten. South won the trick with the ten and was now up to eight

Another famous saying, attributed to New York's Eigar Kaplan, is: "Where there's eight, there's nine." Declarer next led a low diamond from his hand, and West, not suspecting that his partner held all the top hearts, failed to take his ace, allowing dummy to win the king. Declarer quickly ran for home; he showed his cards, claiming five club tricks and the ace of spades, to make his contract.

Notice East may have saved the defense. When declarer led a heart at trick two, East should have played the jack, to indicate a strong

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

malicious woman going

20 Stage show featuring

round undressed (7)



With its tall, graceful stems and bright green leaves, hollyhocks are a most pleasant sight along

The wild, yet graceful hollyhock flower

HERE are quite a mimber of wildflowers in Israel that are the basic stock from which our domestic garden flowers have been developed. In many cases, the wild relative is as striking as the domestic plant but usually more limited in its range of

Hollyhocks are such an example. There are two kinds in the country, both of which are pink. During the summer we see the half-dried plant with a multitude of soon-to-be scattered seeds. But in the early spring, in fact, while it's still officially winter, we see the real beauty of the plant.

The first is the one that most closely resembles the hollyhocks that is commonly known from a summer flower garden: in Latin it's called Alcea setosa, the Bristly Hollyhock known as hatmit zifnit in Hebrew.

5 Danger signal seen

6 Lagers overturned before

8 The extent of the

swimming-pool perhaps (6) 14 Bowman has port! (4,4)

15 Almost transitory insect

16 A flier with Bond's prefix

17 Having no pity, hurtles out

18 Backwater near Windsor?

19 A new doctor's in-what's

20 Question the lady's ability

his name? (6)

in the country (6)

of control on Sunday (8)

designed something to give

ten, it appears, in the

city? (3-5)

harem (8)

a lift (8)

7 Boy in a film (6)

Like all hollyhocks, it is a mem-

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

ber of the mallow family. With its tall, graceful stems and bright green leaves contrasting with its many flowers, it is a most pleasant ight along the roadways. . .

The leaves and stems are covered with fine hristles, making the plant unattractive to grazing cattle, and consequently it is not uncommon to see large clumps of these hollyhocks standing in an otherwise closely grazed field.

The plant produces a vast number of seeds that scatter easily, and even though birds, especially finches, find the seeds a treat, there are plenty left for sprouting, which takes place during the winter rains.

But not all are from new seeds, since the plant is a hardy perennial. Although the stems and leaves disappear in summer, the plant comes up anew from its large fleshy roots. The plant grows to its full height before the end of winter and then blooms throughout May and June.

The flowers range from dark to light pink, with an occasional almost white with a pinkish hue. This occurs in areas where the plant is truly wild. In the areas near some settlements, cross-pollination with domesticated hollyhocks - which come in a large array of mauves, purples and even reds - has produced some interesting feral plants in a variety of The second hollybock is the Stemless Hollyhock, Alcea acaulis, called hatmit ain-haperach in Hebrew. Unlike the tall Bristly Hollyhock, the Stemless Hollyhock has large leaves that lie

than the tall variety and has usually disappeared by the end of May. Its flowers are deeper in color than the Bristly Hollyhock, pink hut almost purplishly so.

some areas the fields can appear quite pink with them.

There are also quite a few in other places, especially around Jerusalem. Someone has also deliberately sown them around the destroyed vehicles that serve as a memorial of the War of Independence along the approach to Jerusalem, and they come up year after year and are always in full bloom for Independence Day.

flat on the ground and flower stems that are very short.

This plant blooms a bit earlier

Hollyhocks grow along most of the Mediterranean coast but seem to be more plentiful in the hilly areas. The Galilee is particularly blessed with this plant, and in

11...gxf5 12.Qxf5, on 12.exf5 Black would have gotten a fair game with 12...e4

the game Fischer admitted he was tempted to accept the dare with 13.Qxe5! Ng4 14.Qxg7+ Kxg7

Return to sender

NE of the most enigmatic arenas of chess activity is perhaps correspondence chess. Many of these games have literally gone on for years. Although sometimes conducted by way of telephone, radio, telegraph and more recently through E-Mail, it is through the post that

it has earned its reputation. According to former World Correspondence Chess Champion Ya'akov Estrin, participation in tournaments correspondence equips the chess player with the essential skills and habits of independent chess research."

This enables him or her of leisurely analyse each new postion and so get a tighter grip on te intricacies within. Games can te played without the nervous tension which so often emanaes from face to face confrontation

The English orientalist Thonas Hyde believed that postal class dated back to as early as 160. when Venetian and Slavic nerchants, while exchanging varous goods, also sent chess moves.

The first recorded correspondence game was played betveen the chess players of the Hague and Breda in 1804. In 1837 the notorious Russian master Petrov phyed a consultation game against ilayers from St. Petersburg. In 1828 the Nizam of

Hyderabad, one of the richest inen in the world at the time, sponsored a correspondence match between Madras and Hyderabad, two cities separated by several hundred kilometers of jungle. Each city was represented by two leading Indian players. The moves were sealed in an envelope inside a silver box and were carried to and forth by an overworked and undergaid messenger elephant.

As bad luck would have it, the hapless Shah Sahib, Hyderabad's number one, died at the critical point of one of the games. His replacement went on to lose both his games.

POSTAL CHESS is a fine alternative for the physically handicapped who cannot attend regular tournaments, and also for hermits who find human company an ordeal. Bobby Fischer could well fit into the second category.

Fischer, Robert Benko, Pal USA Championship, 1963-4 Pirc Defence

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.f4 Nf6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bd3 Bg4 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Nc6 9.Be3 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.15, threatening to

constrict Benko with g4 and g5

12...Nd4 13.Qf2, in his notes to

5.hxg4 "with threats all over the lace." But 15 Nc6 would have osed stubborn resistance. 13...Ne8 14.0-0 Nd6 15.Qg3 Kh3 16.Qg4 c6, 16_c5! 17.Qh5 Qe8?, 17...Ne6 or 17...c5 were begging to be played 18.Bxd4

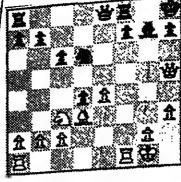


DIAGRAM 1

19.Rf6!!, the killer blow. If the rook is now captured with 19...Bxf6 Benko's f pawn is blocked. He had no doubt expected 19.e5 f5!

19...Kg8 20.e5 h6 21.Ne2!, On 21 Rxd6 Black would have survived to battle out the endgame with 21...Qxe5!!. Now there is no defence to the threat of Rxd6 1-0

Ya'akov Estrin was the World Correspondence Champion for 14 years between 1975-1989. In his game against Boey from the 1978-81 10th World Correspondence Championship, Estrin (White) to move look: as if he will have to be content with a draw.

Although materially ahead, his Rook will have to be exchanged with Black's forward A pawn as soon as it promotes. But Estrin who later commented "the charm of chess lies in its total unpredictability," defied the obvious and discovered an enchanting winning line. White to play and

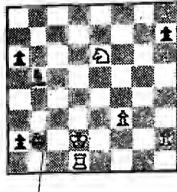


DIAGRAM 2

Solition: 1.Ral!!, Estrin sacrifics his rook hul actually. leave Black's A pawn on the

1. Kxa1 2.Kc1! paralyzing and rendring both Black's King and A pwn totally useless 2.Bc4 3.Nd4 a5 4.f4 1-0









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BEVERLEE BLACK

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been concentrating efforts on raising funds to provide scholarships for education or technical training for new immigrants and young Israelis completing army service. This year we gave NIS 90,000 to students at Hebrew University, the Movement for Fighting Poverty in Israel and just recently, to needy students studying at the Open University.

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of David Bar Illan, Nogah and Bruce Revesz, Cedar Grove, NJ. \$12 Anou., Benton, CA. Can\$125 In honor of Dr. A. Ages, teacher of our Shabbal morning Shitt. DM80 Esther Ludwig-Knpfrian.

Donations NIS 861.86 NIS 26,869.53 \$268 \$11,139,49 COther currencies converted

QUICK CROSSWORD

22 Strange fellow included patient chap who does casual work (3-6) 23 A sombre, angry man (7) 24 Chopper? (5) 25 A girl on the shelf returning a bloomer (9)

DOWN

1 Sought by police at the double? (2,3,3)
2 Religious wing? (8) 3 Trendy reporter, before one, bad nightmares (6) 4 Songster has throat trouble (6)

21 Excited, having. champagne? (6) SOLUTIONS SHAMELESS G U P
E E A SHONGO
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Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Threw, 4 Traffic, 2 Nonstop, 9 Torso, 10 Abhor, 11 Narrate, 13 Edge, 15 Divide, 17 Ordeal, 20 Erne, 22 Forbade, 24 Prince, 28 Alihi, 27 Outrage, 28 Entreat, 29 Dwelt. DOWN: 1 Tynwaid, 2 Ranch, 3 Watered, 4 Taping, 5 Actor, 8 Forsake, 7 Close, 12 Acon, 14 Deed, 18 Verdict, 12 Reputed, 19 Lenient, 21 Retort, 22 Frame, 23 Alive, 25

DOWN

14 Thin (6) 16 Fervour (6) 20 Stitch (3) 22 Appearing (7) 23 Walked into water 25 Guaranteeing (B)

ACROSS 1 Overdue (4) 1 Defamation (5) 2 Southern 3 Grieving (8) American (abbrev) (3) 9 Prize-fighter (5) 10 Allspice (7) 4 Parentless child 11 Ship's record (3)

26 Be aware of (4)

5 More distant (7) 13 Pragmatic (9) 6 Harmless (9) 7 Horse-drawn cab B Cover (4) 18 Repeat quickly from memory (6,3) 12 Innocent (9) 14 Anticipate (7)

15 Military man (7) 17 Oppugn (anag) (3-3) 19 Beige (4) 21 Relict (5) 24 Row (3)

CARAN d'ACHE MONT BLANC PLOT SHEAFFER CROSS

AURORA MONTEGRAPPA VISCONTI YARO.O.LED

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The Turkish tourism minister

teams up with a

Jewish and Islamic colleague

to reassure Israelis that

they're welcome in his country.

Abraham Rabinovich writes

Istanbul worried that Israelis are going cold Turkey

The Jerusalem Pom sender

But 15... Ve6 would be 14.0-0 Nd6 15.00 17... Ve6 or 17... Ve6 or 17... Ve6 player 5... Ve6 pl ting to be played 18

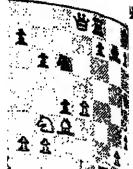


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The second secon

ALL STATES

HE mustachioed man sat at the side, a silent presence with an ambivalent expression that could be taken as either threatening or just uncomfortable. The Israeli journalists on a recent visit to Turkey would bardly have noticed him in the crowded room had the tourism minister, Bahattin

Yucel, not introduced him. The curt introduction itself seemed to carry mixed signals the minister made certain to point out the man's presence, but did not seem to be encouraging us to engage him in dialogue.

The occasion was a press conference in a refurbished Ottoman palace in Istanbul. The minister's aim in inviting the Israeli reporters to meet with him was to encourage, through them, the return to his country of Israeli bolidaymakers, whose enthusiasm for Turkish vacations has dropped sharply this year.

The man with the moustacbe was a parliamentary member of the Islamic Wolfare Party, whose accession to power is one of the reasons Ismeli tourists are shying away from Turkey. A 50 percent drop in Israeli visits to Antalya, where Hebrew signs in the marketplace have become common-

place, is anticipated this:year.

There is no way the Welfare Party will influence relations in the tourism sector," the minister

said, adding, "the Turkish lifestyle will changed.'

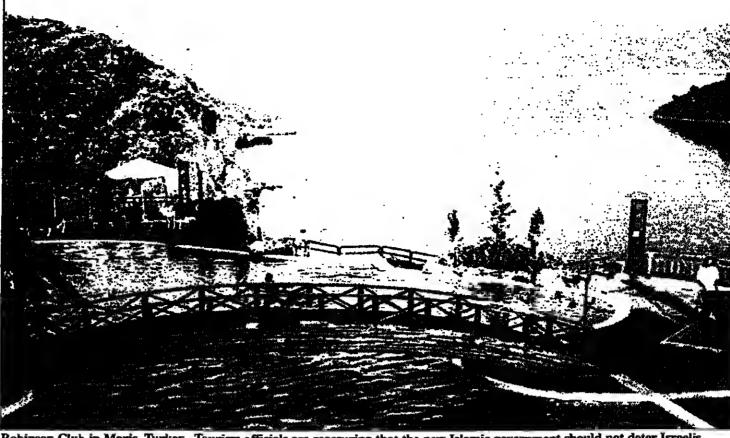
حكنامن الأجل

Of the seven million tourists Turkcy received last year, Israelis constituted 300,000, but Turkish tourism afficials evidently regard than a 4 percent market share might seem to warrant.

Important chough to have invit-ed close to 50 Israeli tour operators with whom the minister had just had lunch in an adjoining room and to have invited the party nf Israeli journalists, mostly tourism reporters, for a meeting with the minister we had not requested. Important enough as well to account for the presence of the Islamic parliamentarian, Mukadder Basegoner, as well as that of another tacitum gentlemen introduced as the chief of one of Turkey's security services. Sitting alongside the minister was the one Jewish member of the Turkish parliament, Cefi Kamhi.

In a previous incarnation. Istanbul had been the capital of Byzantine and one sensed from the cast of characters in the room and the tense expressions that intrigues and hidden agendas had not abandoned the banks of the

"Our industry works on a narrow profit margin, perhaps 5 per-cent, so the drop in Israeli tourism



Robinson Club in Maris, Turkey. Tourism officials are reassuring that the new Islamic government should not deter Israelis.

is meaningful," the minister said.
"Besides that, we would like tn nndertake joint ventures with Israel. You are getting tourists from Japan and Korea, for instance. We would like deals that

would hring them on to Turkey." A Turkish journalist had confided before the press conference that the liberal minister had surprised everybody by agreeing to join the coalition government headed by the Welfare Party. The minister seemed to be using

than the economic reasons he had cited. It had a political meaning, affirming Turkey's secular status better than would tourists from any other country.

The presence in the room of the

the occasion not merely to pro-

mote tourism but to tell the world,

somewhat defiantly perhaps, that

despite the change in government

Turkcy would not be beading

down the Islamic path. The role of

Israeli tourists, one conjectured,

had greater significance for him

security chief was evidently intended to assure us that Turkey had terrorism under control. The presence of the Jewish parliamentarian was likewise intended to be

It was not clear, however, whether the Islamic representative was there as a Big Brother overseeing, and thereby negating, the message being flashed by the minister or whether there was some other reason for his pres-

"May we ask your colleague a question?" the minister was finally asked by one of the reporters. Basegoner did not speak English, but the minister agreed to

"Are we to assume from your presence," asked the journalist of Basegoner, "that the Welfare Party which you represent is willing to accept continued Israeli tourism in Turkey - perhaps even that it encourages Israeli tourism?" All eyes were now on the

Islamic parliamentarian, who leaned forward as he considered the question for a few seconds before responding with one word:

Only after the minister had moved the discussion on to other

tracks did Basegoner signal that he had something to add: "My presence here means that tourism reflects the peace process, a process which is proof that Moslems and Jews can be together," the suddenly voluble parlia-mentarian said. "We're all brothers. You've got to give everyone that message. We believe Hebrew is the mother of languages. The oldest prayers are in Hebrew. It is the language spoken in heaven."

Indeed, our five-day tour of Turkey found no sign of Islamic militancy or of anti-Israel sentiment. We were frequently hailed in Hebrew by merchants as we walked past their shops, even if we were not speaking Hebrew. In Antalya a Hebrew banner stretched across an entire street in the heart of the shopping district, assuring visitors of good buys to be had, and many store windows bore signs in Hebrew offering good shopping. Some locals could sing jingles from advertisements on Israeli television, which can be picked up in Turkey, and one merchant declared himself a dedicat-

ed fan of entertainer Dudu Topaz. The rise in Islamic electoral support had no visible reflection resort areas, which remain as laid back and fun-focused as similar resorts in Greece or Italy. There were topless tourists and belly-dancing Turks, as well as beaches, yacht cruises, casinos and prolific numbers of good and cheap restaurants, Although persons in Islamic garb are certainly visible, they seem mild, unthreatening and accepting of the secular lifestyle all about them.

Have a grape time in Binyamina

SEE IT HERE HAIM SHAPIRO

THEY don't let you crush the grapes with your feet anymore, but grape harvests still have a special atmosphere of their own. At the same time, picking grapes is not exactly easy. For one thing, most wineries today want their grapes picked in the early hours of the morning, while they are still cool, so that they can be pressed before fermentation sets in. For another thing, many of the vines are low, with bunches growing close to the ground, so have to keep bending over to get to them.

In an effort to put the romance back into grape harvests, the Baron Cellars in Binyamina, together with the Eden Inn Hotel in Zichron Ya'acov havc come np with a program of wine picking for amateurs.

The Baron Cellars are actually among the first of Israel's small quality wine-makers, although its vineyards date back to 1882, when Michael and Malka Tishbi were among the Jewish pioneers wbo began growing wine grapes with the support of Baron Edmond de Rothschild. Like most of the winegrowers in Israel, the Tishbi vineyards sold their grapes to the giants Carmel cooperative until 1984, when Yonatan Tishhi, Michael and Malka's great-grandson, decided to set out on his own and make his own wine.

Their product has contributed to the revolution whereby Israeli wines, which were once despised by the wine experts, have now assumed a respectable position in the world of wine-making. Assisting Tishbi in this task are his son, Golan, whose specialty is the winery's prize-making brandy, and wine-maker Arye Nesher, a jovial immigrant from Southern Russia, near the shores of the



When Yonatan, Tishbi crushes grapes, he leaves his feet free to show visitors around.

Black Sea, itself a region wellknown for its wines.

The cellars are picturesquely located at the family home, on the eastern slopes of the Carmel range, between Binyamina and Zichron Ya'acov. There is a small visitors' center and tasting room. Behind the tasting room is an open arbor with rough log benches and tables. It was here that our own wine harvest experience began, with a dinner of bome made salads and grilled fresh fish, accompanied, of course, by a full selection

Personally, I am still partial to the cellar's Muscat. This is a white

wine made with the most common locally grown grape. It was the Baron winery which first exploited the potential of this ostensibly plebian grape to produce a fruity wine with a rich, flowery, bon-

DESPITE our extended wine-tasting of the evening before, we were up at 6 am the next morning so we could go out to pick grapes. The vineyards were along the

coastal plain west of the Carmel range. By the time we arrived, the sun was already beginning to beat down on us and Tishbi, along with his regular hired grape pickers, had been there for several hours. It would be difficult to say that we contributed greatly to the Baron Cellars production, but we did try, carefully picking the grapes by hand, discarding leaves

and rotten grapes. According to

Tishbi, this insistence on handpicking is a prime factor in the quality of the wine. From there it was back to the vineyard for a hearty breakfast of

salad, home made cheeses and labane, and freshly baked pitta. For the general public, the winepicking excursions are available for a minimum of 15 participants. The program, which includes two nights at either the Eden Inn or Havat Habaron hotels, with time to explore the area around Zichron Ya'acov, is NIS666 for adults, half

(Avi Waldman)

price for children. For those wbo would like to visit the Baron Cellars without participating in this program, they are open to the public from 8 am to 5 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, g

am to 3 p.m. on Friday.

The nearby Carmel Cellars conduct guided tours Sunday through Thursday from 8.30 am to 3 p.m., Friday 8.30 am to 12.30 pm. The admission is NIS10 for adults and NIS5 for children.

Shakespeare in Cyprus

HAIM SHAPIRO

FLIGHT to the first-ever production in Cyprus of L'Verdi's opera, Otello, is being planned by Arkia for September 21. The price of \$396 includes round trip flights including champagne, dinner, and a ticket for the opera, which is to take place out doors, in the port of Paphos.

A SERIES of guided tours, in English, of Europe and North and South America are available through Saviv Haolam, Prices, which do not include air fare from Israel, range from \$255 for a fourday tour of England to \$2,727 for a 13-day visit to Equador and the Galapagos Islands. Other tours include a 15-day visit to Russia and the Baltic states (\$1,228) and a 13day tour of Alaska and the Yukon(\$2,449).

THE Inter-Continental chain is offering reduced rates on weekends for hotels in European capitals. Rates for a couple, including breakfast, taxes and service charges, are from \$160 in Frankfurt, \$310 in Paris, \$153 in Prague, and \$235 in London. For those staying at least two nights, the chain offers a checkont of 4.30 p.m. on Sunday and a choice of such extras as upgrading to a suite, a dinner, or a guided tour

THE Austrian Tourist Bureau has published a brochure, in Hebrew, with basic information for visitors. Also included are the locations of kosher restaurants and the Jewish Museum and main synagogue of

LOOKING for a way to relieve the boredom for anywhere from four to 14 months? East West, a Parisbased company, has a fleet of sailing catamarans, each accommodating a captain and a paying crew of

seven. Facilities include cabins with private bathrooms, and telephone and fax on board. Prices range from \$22,000 for a four-month stint to \$66,000 for the full 14-month round-the-world trip. Not included in the price are visa fees, port taxes, and personal expenses ashore.

IF you're looking for something different to do during the holidays, Galilee Tours is organizing tours to the Gulf state of Oman. Price for the nine-day tour, including Royal Jordanian flights between Amman and Muscat, the capital of Oman, is

SEVEN nights in Rhodes, Crete, or Santorini are now available for \$399 from International Tours. The company is also offering a 14-day visit to Morocco for \$1,305.

IF your children have gone off to South America and you want to follow in their footsteps, you can do so in style on a tour organized by Peltours. The 29-day tour includes Brazil, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina, from the Amazonian to the glaciers of Patagonia. The price of \$5,885 includes flights, tours and accommodation with breakfast.

A traveling seminar to eastern Germany, in the footsteps of Bach, complete with concerts in many of the churches in which the master worked, is being organized by Ophir Tours, under the direction of musicologist Smadar Karmi-Giberman. The price of the nineday tour, including flights, is

Myanmar, formerly Burma, until recently almost closed to western tourism, is the destination for a 15day tour by Geographical Tours-Neot Hakikar.

The price is \$3,495 and the tour winds up with time for shopping in

Fast bus to Jordan

HE peace with Jordan is warmer than that with Egypt, but the Hashemite kingdom still doesn't permit Israeli tour buses to cross the border. Now Mazada Tours has come up with a solution for Israelis who want to travel to Jordan in a group.

The tour company has introduced a 14-seat minihus, revamped in an attempt to provide the prerequisite passenger comfort for a long drive through the desert. Unfortunately the revamping has

left much to be desired. Though the raised ceiling allows passengers to stand up, there is so little space between the seats, they might want to remain standing. The air conditioner doesn't cool those sitting directly beneath it, the wooden beam across the windows (at eye level for those seated at the back) obscures the view, and the carpeted ceiling looks ridiculous.

Equally tacky is the TV-andvideo. Although it might be a good idea to relieve the tedium of traveling at night, it's hardly conducive to communing with a wilderness traversed thousands of years ago by the Israelites, Greeks, Nabateans and Romans. Neither does it seem like a good idea for

DAVID ISAACSON

diverting children who, if bored by the duration of the journey, are probably not going to appreciate the finer points of Jordan's archeological discoveries.
Yet once the Israeli license plates

are swapped for Jordanian ones at the border, it is a good idea to tour this Arab state, relatively friendly though its people are, with an experienced driver and knowledgeable local guide. The remains at lerash are comparable to those at Ephesus in Turkey, and as for Petra's breathtaking combination of natural and human history, it surely makes for one of the most

wondrous places ou earth. And if on the return journey you need to reach the Sheikh Husseini Bridge before this border crossing closes at 8 p.m., the Mazada minibus can handle a good speed in racing against time.

A Mazada Tours two-day trip to Jordan on the minibus (marketed as a "limousine van") costs \$240 per person, including guide, driver, a night in Amman or Petra with breakfast, and entrance to the sites at Jerash and Petra.

The writer was a guest of Mazada Tours.

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This English-speaking tour of Turkey has been organized by the experts - Geographical Tours and Neot Hakikar - especially for Jerusalem Post readers. The 15-day, in-depth tour will explore some of the most wondrous sites of this fascinating country. Our flight will take us to Antalya, where we'll begin our tour at the "eagle's nest" of Termessos. We'll sail to Kekova, only approachable by sea, and that evening we'll visit picturesque Kas, then continue along the Lycian coast to Marmaris, Didyma, and Kusadasi, where

The next day we'll travel to Ephesos, Pamukkale, a natural area of great beauty, and Konya, the home of the Whirling Dervishes. We'll spend the next two days exploring unique sites in the magical region of Cappadocia, and then continue to Ankara, Turkey's capital city. After an ascent through the Phontos Mts., we'll reach istanbul, one of the world's great cities, renowned for both its physical setting and rich culture, and spend three days there (including Shabbat). Our tour of istanbul will include the Blue Mosque, the Hagia Sophia the Byzantine Masterplace - the Topkapi Palace, Grand Bazzar, and much, much more. We'll sail the Bosporus and still have time to shop and stare. This is a unique tour which includes many sites not usually visited by tourists. Don't miss it if you really want to see Turkey.

The price: \$1,395. Single supplement: \$230. Price includes round-trip flight, 4-ster hotels, half-board (B & B in Istanbul), air-conditioned tour bus, admission fees, guides, and English-speaking Geographical Tours guide from Israel. Vegetarian and fish menus available. No Shabbat travel. For reservations and full details contact:

> The Jerusalem Post Travel Club Tel. 02-6221679, Fax. 02-6236161 Sun. - Thur. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Ask for Tova, Nicole, or Siralek

Peace process advances on the David Levy track

EPORTS that the government isn't making any progress on the peace front are simply not true.

This week Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu proved he could engage in serious peace talks with Foreigo Ministry David Levy. After a two-hour lunch the two protagonists emerged smiling and indicating full stomachs and full agreement. Netanyahu's negotiating tactic was elegant in its simplicity.
He divined that Levy's was

mostly an ego problem and if he tossed a few crumbs at it, the crisis would go away. Levy, on the other hand, remains convinced that Netanyahu is a greenhorn prime minister who first makes mistakes and then scurries around trying to mend them. A little pressure from his "friends" merely assists the mending.

But more neutral observers in parliamentary circles say Netanyahu 100 has an ego prob-lem and the thing that riled him most this week were reports that Labor chairman Shimon Peres was going to Morocco to visit King Hassan.

Netanyahu dearly wants to visit King Hassan. He tried to imitate the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with a dramatic landing in Morocco on his way back from his recent meeting with Bill Clinton in Washington. But Hassan was having none of it and rebuffed the Israeli colourage.

Reports from Rabat at the time had it that Hassan did not like the rather strident statements Netanyabu had made in Washington, in particular the remarks about Arab states in the region getting their democracy act together. Hence Peres's appareot continuing ease of access to the royal palace was one more prod at a tender prime ministerial spot and Netanyahu flared up, accusing Peres of interfering in the peace process and "throwing spanners in the wheels of negotiation."

"When I was leader of the opposition," Netanyahu added, I never thought I could conduct diplomacy or went to any Arab leader or other statesman,

To which Peres retorted that without Labor the peace process wouldn't even have wheels. "The previous government provided the wheels. It is now we see the spanners in them," be said.

He advised the prime minister to equip himself with a longer memory and more accuracy of otterance. Labor MKs gleefully chimed in to remind Netanyahu that he had indeed visited "an Arab leader," King Hussein.







PM Netanyahu isn't too pleased ex-premier Peres may soon visit Morocco's King Hassan (above left); Rabbi Schach said he's against Shabbat gatherings on Rehov Bar-Ilan; MK Ofer Pines's protest of overspending for the PM's home was struck (David Rubinger, Isaac Harari, Ronen Mengen)

and his envoys tried to nudermine government peace policy in the eyes of the US Administration and American Jewry, causing damage Israel, and be had sent the Syrians a message advising Hafez Assad to wait until after the elections before negotiating an agreewith ment

AH, NOSTALGIA

Did anyone mention peace process? In the words of old the Maurice Chevalier standard: "Ah yes, I remember it well."

The Israeli, Palestinian aod Norwegian "parents" of the Oslo agreements this week held a nostalgie reunion on the shore of the Kinneret to mark the third anniversary of the signing of the then secret agreements.

Only three years? Those old days of the secret eootacts and. startling news breaks already seem like ancieot history from dusty schoolbooks. The government ignored the occasion and sent oo representatives. Pity, said a Knesset peace supporter, Netanyahu and his people might

to get the creaky old Oslo cart out of the sand dunes. Peres, who was

the guest of bonor, said Oslo had been an hisbreakthrough for the entire Middle East. MK Yossi Beilin joined him in extolling "irrethe versible" achievement. Nobody would say it on the record, but

privately are less

leaders

than confident that "irreversible" is the most solid adjective to put before the eurrent "peace process."

Labor

CONQUERING HERO

The big question this weekend is wbether there will be another demonstration of haredim on Rehov Bar-Ilan Saturday night after baredi leaders promised to call them off.

Degel Hatorah leader Rabbi Eliezer Schach said be opposed the Shabbat gatherings on Rehov Bar-Ilan. Ha'oretz reported Schacb issuing a surprising blast against those who argue the street should be closed because most of its residents are religious. "The majority argument must not be used, because the he said. "If things went according to the majority, then Israel would be a secular state."

FEATURES

At last Saturday's demo, the police were doing quite a good job maintaining order while keeping the street open to traffic when, surprise surprise, who should sweep onto the scene in his lime but Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani.

How nice of him to support his bard working police boys in blue. And, by actually driving there, be must be making a firm statement in support of our fine Supreme Court after it ruled that the road must be kept open.

No such luck. Sporting a trendy short-sleeved black T-shirt and black kippa ensemble, the minister wowed the baredi crowds who burst enthusiastically into the street to surround him. No. they didn't seem to mind at all that their hero was breaking Shabbat by driving there.

Police stood by helplessly as Kahalani was enthusiastically escorted into Or Hatzafon yeshiva. the haredi bastion from which the weekend attacks and stonethrowing at police were launched. The fans shouted to Kahalani "we love you and we're counting on you to close the

At the police for wbom the minister is responsible they shouted "Nazis" and "Amit, go bome, resign," for the benefit of Jerusalem Police commander Arye Amit. Encouraged by the minister's obvious support, the haredim then swooped on journalists covering the event, lashing out with blows, screams and The minister achieved what the

demonstrations bad failed to achieve he stirred a commodon that closed the street for an hour. Finally Kahalani emerged unscathed, and said he had been greeted with songs and blessings. 'It was risky going in there," the intrepid bero recounted. "But I've been through more danger-ous battles in the Beka Valley [and] in the Golan." As was widely reported in the print and televisioo media, the baredim around him yelled: "We want to be zealots, we want a Khomeini regime bere."

After Kahalani finally swept away in his car, the haredim remembered their obligation to preserve Shabbat peace. So they started yelling "Death to secular Jews, death to left wingers."

Is it any wonder, asked parliameotarians, their heads shaking in disbelief, that we have to beef up security around the bomes of the state's Supreme Court judges. Furthermore, they added, he have picked up some tips on bow majority of the state is secular," Their lives bave been anonymously threateoed since they ruled on the road.

SHOW MUST GO ON

Knesset Finance Committee this week approved NIS 150,000 to rent and renovate an apartment for the prime minister and his family. Uotil the residence is ready, in a mere six months time, another apartment was rented for the Netanyahus (\$4,000 a month), and one for the security guards (\$800 a month). Labor MK Opbir Pines's

protest that this is an unnecessary waste of poblic funds in a time of cutbacks and bodget slashing was overruled. So was the suggestion that the prime minister should rent a more modest luxury apartment.

But a planned project for fixing and improving several "red roads" accident black spots wreaking a toll of buman lives was slashed out of existence by the finance ministry. "Budget cutsl" The Public Works Department also said it would have to gazed construction on have to cancel construction on central road projects - although not the Judea and Samaria bypass

Correction

Wednesday's story otled "A chef's work is never done" contained a misleading statement. The affect-ed sentence should have read: Basson was not the only one who seemingly failed Clean-up 101 in cooking school." We apologize for

GREER FAY CASHMAN

TA Hilton Hotel's Japanese hostess Yayoi Kitamura presents Mikhail Baryshnikov with a bouquet

Leaders under the sign of Leo

of flowers during the dancer's visit here this week.

HERE'S SOMETHING to be said for astrology.

was also a Leo.

whether the party to which he has

been invited is for him or for

someone else. That's what hap-

pened last Friday when he was

invited to Tel Aviv's Recital Halls

attended previous birthday parties

for Peres and other lumioaries, but

whose names could oot be pub-

Also present was National Infrastructure Minister Ariel

Sharon who came fashionably

late and whose arrival generated a

wave of jocular speculation about

a national unity government. The

truth of the matter is that Sharon

and Peres, despite their political

differences, have been friends for the best part of 40 years.

The giant birthday cake, though

not quite as spectacular as that

without its symbolism. Because it

was for Peres, it was also a "peace

THE PAST has come to haunt Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy

in more ways than one. Caught

speeding in his pre-ministerial days while still just an MK, Levy

clocked up as much as 120 k.p.h.

and will now have to undergo a

THIRD TIME lucky. His friends

are hoping singer/composer/conductor/musician Shlomo Gronich,

has struck a permanently harmo-

nious note. Gronich, 47, this week

tied the knot for the third ome when

be wed harmonica player Michal

Adler, 24. Among the guests was Shimon Peres, who earlier this

month also attended the wedding of

rock singer Aviv Geffen who recip-

rocated at the Peres surprise party.

predecessor Yisrael Kessar.

cake," replete with dove.

Yoram Marciano.

Ayalon



Theater director Yossi Alfi has lined up 300 story tellers for the Third Holon Story Telling Festival in October. (Yaraci Malovny)

for what was ostensibly a farewell WHILE A committee headed by Paul Volker, former chairman of for his long time political adviser the US Federal Reserve Bank is As it happened, it was yet anothinvestigating the fate of monies er Peres birthday basb attended by and other assets deposited in Swiss banks by Jews who may have perished in the Holocaust, familiar faces on the celebrity circuit including political cronies, prize-winning journalist Richard Z. Chesnoff, is completing what entertainment stars, captaios of industry and senior security personnel such as Mossad chief is likely to be a best-selling book under the working title of Danny Yatom and General Security Services head Ami "Holocaust Assets." wbose predecessors

A senior correspondent for US News and World Report, Chesnoff has accessed thousands of previously unseen documents and his research has taken him across three continents. Newly unearthed evidence, be says, indicates that major chunks of Jewish assets are still in Swiss banks, but other parts of looted properties and monies are hidden in various European countries and in the US. The book to be published by Doubleday in early 1998 tells of specific families whose fortunes and properties were stolen.

produced by American pastry chefs for Bill Clinton, was not EVERYONE LOVES a good story and no one more so than Yossi Aifi who has organized numerous story telling marathons around the country. For the Third Holon Story Telling Festival scheduled for October 2 - 5. Alfi has lined up 300 story tellers including film, theater, TV and radio personalities, spies, sexologists, ex-cons, people who've had contact with visitors from outer space, secularists who've become religious and religious people who special preventive course to curb his propensity for reckless dri-ving. Severe penalties for this offence were introduced by his became secular. The latter include television celebrities Israel Segal. Elazar Sturm and Yigal Goren who is the nephew of the late Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren.

Alfi has also organized a special session of Jerusalem stories featuring Israel's 5th president Yitzbak Navon, entertainers Haim Banai and Jacques Cohen, journalist and author Dov Ginochovsky and Ruby Rivlin, who is waiting for Eliahu Ben Elissar ambassador designate to the US to resign from the Knesset so that he can move into his Knesset seat. Ben Elissar, whose

paperwork for Washington has yet to be completed, has made it clear that he has no intendon of resigning until be gets on the plane

"IT'S THE only parliament in the world that was schnorred," said Rabbi Berel Wein head of the Monsey New York Beit Torah Congregation and Sha'arei Torah Yeshiva Wein who has been Sebolar in Residence for the Israel Council of Young Israel's Torah Education Summer Series, was referring to the Knesset edifice in the context of the many gifts bestowed on Israel by members of the Rothschild family. And in a more up-to-date comment on how simutions can reverse themselves. Wein remarked that former Prisoners of Zion Natan Sharansky and Yuli Edlestein "are government ministers and Gorbachev hasn't got a job."

EVERYONE AT the Tel Aviv Hilton was understandably excited when Mikhail Baryshnikov took up resideoce at the hotel's presidential suite, which oo election night was occupied by Binyamin and Sara Netanyahu. But the most excited of all was the hotel's Japanese hostess, Yayoi Kitamura, a keen ballet fan and a great admirer of Baryshnikov, who could not believe that she was actually meeting him face to face in Israel of all places.

AND TALKING of the Netanyahus, Time Magazine featured them in its current edition in the context of government leaders whose in-flight romances led to marriage. Others in the partial list include former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating who wooed his wife Annita a former Alitalia stewardess, while their feet were firmly off the ground. Steingrimur Hermannssson for-mer Prime Minister of Iceland had his first encounter with his wife Edda on board an Icelandair flight. The Sultan of Brunei took as his second wife a Royal Brunei Airlines hostess named Mariam and the late Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreau winged his way with Dimitra, the Olympic Airlines hostess whom be later married. Sara Netanyahu was an El Al hostess when she met the prime-minister-to-be.

THE CANADIAN friends of Jerusalem Elwyn long ago discovered the truth in the maxim that the way to a man's (or woman's) heart is through the stomach. A champagne luncheon, begun some years ago by 12 cou-ples has evolved into a popular social event. Toronto's famed Scaramouche Restaurant, which can hold only 100, bad to turn people away. Part of the fun of an Elwyn lunch is that the guests prepare the meal together with chef Kevin McKeachie. Israeli consular officials, who were invited by CFJE president Dorothy Weiner will come with some intriguing culinary secrets. Elwyn provides special education and job training for children and adults with developmental dis-

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Construction of apartments down 36% in first half of year

THE number of apartments built in homes were built, down 15%. In the first half of the year was down 36 percent from the same period last year to 23,440, 11% lower than the second half of 1995, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. The bulk of the slowdown took place in the public sector.

Io the first half of this year, 8,100 public sector apartments were constructed, a 56% drop compared to the equivalent 1995 period. In the second quarter that figure increased 22% to 4,450, but that was still down 38% compared to

the same quarter in 1995. In terms of building start-ups, the public sector accounted for 35% in the first six months, compared to 50% in the same period last year. In the private sector 15,340 in the public sector.

the second quarter 6,920 were built, down 18% from the first quarter and 23% fewer than the corresponding period last year.
The overall amount of land used

for construction start-ups also declined in the first half to 4.8 million square meters, down from 5.9 million sq. m. in the second half of 1995, and 6.5 million sq.m. in the first six months of that year.

The number of apartments completed reached 23,070 in the first half of 1996, 45% more than in the same period last year.

At the end of June, 92,000 apartmeots were under construction, almost the same as at the end of March. Of the 92,000, 43% were

Leumi: Insurance spin-off to proceed as planned

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Leumi will spin off Leumi Insurance Holdings from the Africa Israel holding company in an attempt to complete its transaction with Italy's Assicurazioni Generali, the bank said in an announcement to the

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

Meanwhile, the Wertheimer-Zisser consortium has withdrawn its bid to participate in the tender to purchase Bank Leumi's 25 percent surplus holding in Africa Israel. The consortium has agreed not to participate in the tender, directly or indirectly, via another investor.

The withdrawal follows Bank Lenmi's spin-off decision. Generali has offered to purchase 40% of Leumi Insurance at a value of \$1 billion, but completion of the transaction remains subject to the Treasury's approval of the bank's request for a six-month extension of the December 31 deadline for selling its surplus non-banking assets.

If Bank Leumi does not receive the extension, the Generali deal is likely to be cancelled and the bank will have to sell Africa Israel as one unit. In this case, Bank Leumi said it "intends to enter negotiations with one of the bidders that took part in the tender for Africa Israel."

The Wertheimer-Zisser group had boped Africa Israel general manager Shlomo Grofman could prevent the spin-off, but following his resignation Wednesday they decided there is oo point in bidding for Africa Israel.

Bank Leumi said the bids it received in the tender for the purchase of all

of Africa Israel are lower than it had expected, and lower than Generali's.

ITT Sheraton becomes partner in Koor Hotels

IN a major development in the local tourism industry, ITT Sheraton International yesterday took over 50 perceot of the ownership of Koor Hotels and Resorts, which presently manages the

Paradise hotel chain. Neither ITT Sheraton nor Koor would specify what the former gave the latter in return for the

The agreement was announced at a ceremony io which Robert Cotter, president of Sheraton Europe, and Benny Gaon, director of the Koor conglomerate, signed a memorandum of understanding.

The new jointly owned company is to be known as Sheraton Israel, and is to be headed by Raphy Weiner, director of Koor Hotel and Resorts, who had previously been general manager of the Jerusalem Sheraton Plaza Hotel.

On January 1, four of the five Paradise properties, includiog two hotels in Eilat and one each in Jerusalem and Tiberias, are to become part of Sheraton ITT's new Four Points chain, which will be a oetwork of moderately-priced hotels.

Wheo it is completed, the Herod's Hotel in Eilat, for which Koor has a management agreement, is to become a Sheraton

. There are presently two Sheraton hotels here, in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

According to Cotter, the hotels are to be the first Four Points hotels in the Europe-Middle East area. Cotter said he is excited to be association with "the oumber one company in Israel."

He noted that Sberaton was the first international hotel chain to come to Israel when it arrived 25

He also promised that the inter-



Benny Gaon (left), director of the Koor conglomerate, and Robert Cotter, Sheraton Europe president, yesterday sign a deal giving ITT-Sheraton a 50 percent stake in Koor Hotels.

national company would back its commitment with further investments, although he could not say when such investments would be Koor and ITT Sheraton's pareot made or with what magnitude.

Gann noted that it has been Koor's policy over the past four years to join forces with leading international companies.

He said that Koor had set up Koor Hotels and Resorts two years ago to show its seriousness about entering the field of tourism and to justify a linkage with an international company like

So far, Koor had about \$100 million invested in tourism, be said. Gaon said that the agreement symbolized Sheraton ITT's confidence in the Israeli ecocomy and

Gaon also expressed the bope that the link with ITT Sheraton would forge a connection between company, ITT, especially in the capital market.

One of the main attractions of Sberaton, Cotter said, was its reservations system, which he described as the most far-reaching in the world.

Another advantage, be said, was that the company would be able to bring in personnel from abroad and to send employees elsewhere for periods of three or four years. He also made it clear that Sheraton intended to have additional botels in Israel.

"It is our intention to have more botels than anyone else, and more hotels in Israel," Cotter said.

Accent releases new Hebrew software: Accent Software Systems (Kivun) has announced the release of the Hebrew version of Corel

The graphics program allows users to create and change pictures without cutting and pasting and to pass from Hebrew to other languages.

Computer opens new school: Computer, the Herzliya-based computer center, has established a new school for the study of computers. In the first stage, the school will offer four computer classes. For information, call Ron Barak, (09) 550999.

Kateronics joins with US firm to make electronic car: Kateronics, a Herzliya-based company that is part of the Rada (Nasdaq) group, has joined with the Idaho-based company AMI to manufacture electronic cars.

Optimedia will produce CD-Rom for Elsevier: British publishing house Elsevier has selected Optimedia to produce a CD-Rom that will include 15 books on seismology. The agreement is reportedly worth NIS 260,000.

Construction begins on power plant in Ashkelon

DAVID HARRIS

THE Israel Electric Corporation began work yesterday oo its \$1.6 billion coal-fired power statioo just south of Ashkelon.

Named after the founder of Israel's original electric corporation, Rutenberg, the station will comprise two units, each capable of generating 550 megawatts of electricity.

The first of the generators is expected to be operational by the winter of 2000.

This is the technological last word; electricity that will be produced comparatively cheaply and a station that is almost totally free of eovironmental pollutioo," Electric Corp. Chairman Gad Ya'acobi said.

The Electric Corp. is demanding that the infrastructure develop-ment of the electricity infrastruc-

ture market in Israel become the fastest in the entire western world," managing director Rafi Peled said.

The existing Ruteoberg station has been the cause of controversy between the Electric Corp. and State Comptroller Miriam Ben-

The original twin 550 MGWunit power plant was to be operational by 1986.

But only one unit was put into operation in August 1990 and the second unit became operational in November 1991.

Last year's State Comptroller's report criticized both the Electric Corp. for not meeting its dead-lines, as well as the Electric Corp.'s board of directors for not moving the project along when it

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Zim's first-half net income up 20%

ZIM ISTACI Navigation Co. Lu vesterday reported semi-annual net income of \$4.2 million, op 20 percent from \$3.5m. in the corresponding period last year.

The company's total net income through June stood at \$700.3m., compared to \$702.5m. last June. Operating expenses and related services rose to \$626.2m. in the

first six months, an increase of \$6.7m., this the company says was because of the increase in the quantity of cargo carried. The number of containers carried

increased by 5% to 449,900. Despite that increase, income turnover is lower by 0.3%, because of an ongoing erosion of freight rate levels in most trade areas. The erosion is the result of "the growing gap between supply and demand of tomage, both in Israeli and international trade," according to a company statement.

However, with world trade growing at a yearly 5% to 7%, forecasts suggest the gap between supply and demand of carrying volume should be reduced.

Co-Op Blue Square Property and Investments, one of the country's leading retail chains, reported a small drop in net profits for the second quarter of 1996 despite a high growth in sales.

Second quarter profits fell to NIS 16.94 million compared to NIS 17.87m. in the corresponding period last year. Net profits in the first six months of the year increased 36.4%, to NIS 30.82m. compared to NIS 22.59m.

Sales grew 32% in the second quarter of 1996, to NIS 638m. compared to NIS 484.2m. The growth was due to an increase in food sales and also the merger of Hamashbir Lazarchan Tel Aviv and Hamashbir Lazarchen Haifa at the start of 1996.

Ya'acov Gelbard, chairman of the board of directors of Blue Square Property and Investments, said Hamashbir Lazarchan is scheduled to open two new brancbes, on a total area of 3,600 sq.m., by the end of the year. So far, the chain has opened a 2,700 sq.m. branch in Karmiel and a 1,800



GALIT LIPKIS BECK and DAVID HARRIS

sq.m. chain in Ashdod. In the reported period, the chain also opened a Hyper branch in Beersheba and a 3,000 sq.m. Super

Center branch in Ashdod. In July Blue Square - Israel, Co-Op Blue Square's parent company, raised \$76m. in a public offering on

Wall Street Ararat Insurance, a subsidiary of Clal Insurance, moved to a profit from a loss in the first six months of the year. The company reported a net profit of NIS 11.84m. compared to a net profit of NIS 9.03m. in the same period last year.

Net profits in the second quarter of the year increased 180% to NIS 6.38m. compared to NIS 2.27m. Management attributed the improved results to the company's implementation of a recovery program last year which involved a cut-back in expenses, closer of loss making businesses and installation of a new computer.

In the general insurance field Ararat suffered losses of NIS 2.04m. compared to NIS 22.4m. in the first half.

Earnings from the life insurance sector increased to NIS 12.6m. in the six month period compared to NIS 10.58m. In the second quarter, earnings rose to NIS 6.56m. compared to NIS 5.4m.

Packer Plada, the Kfar Savaheadquartered steel-related holding

NIS 347,000 in the second quarter of 1996 compared to NIS 5.8m. in the corresponding period last year.

The drop in earnings was due, among others, to a 21% drop in sales turnover, to NIS 123.8m. The decrease was also a result of a drop in steel prices worldwide and increased competition in the ceramics field which reduced its subsidiary, Negev Ceramics, contribution to the group's earnings. Israel General Bank completed

13.7% drop in net profits to NIS 3.31m. compared to a net profit of NIS 3.83m. in the corresponding period last year. Net profits in the first six months of the year fell 24.2% to NIS 5.53m. compared to NIS 7.3m.

the second quarter of 1996 with a

Net return on equity on an annual basis fell to 4.9% in the first half compared to 6.8%. Management said earnings were hindered by a drop in earnings from financing operations in the first half, to NIS 15.2m. compared to NIS 21.4m. The decrease was

due to an erosion in profits in the shekel sector and also investments in the financial markets. Operating and other income increased 8.6% in the first six months to NIS 29.8m. compared to NIS 27.4m. Operating and other expenses rose to NIS 35.01m.

Total assets rose to NIS 2.23b. from NIS 2.17b. at the end of 1995. Credit to the public grew to NIS 1.07b. from NIS 1.05b.

compared to NIS 34.3m.

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Stocks up on hope of rate cut

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET ROBERT DANIEL





Two-Sided index

STOCK investors will be watching the ceotral bank with some optimism that governor Jacob Frenkel will order an interest rate cut on

18025 35138 28723

Monday. The stock indexes rose vesterday, led by shares of Koor Industries Ltd., Africa-Israel Investmeets and Clai Tradiog. The broader market was weaker, with two issues falling for every one that rose. Trading remained below the monthly average.

"Specific shares are giving a little boost to he market, said Zvi Stepak, co-managing director of tel aviv securities firm Meitav Ltd.

At the same time, some investors are now expecting either no cut or a reduction of perhaps 0.5 Maof index

percentage points because of the government's continuing budget deficits, Stepak said.

And windrawals from the provident fuods are continuing, he said, which also could pressure stock prices.

The Two-Sided Iodex rose 0.66 percent to 173.28, while the Maof Index advanced 0.82% to 184.16.

Across the Tel Aviv Sock Exchange, NIS 56.4 million of shares traded, 11% below the month's daily average of NIS 63.2m.

The most active issue was Koor Industries Ltd., up 2% on NIS 5.4m. of shares traded. Koor rose as the company entered a joint venture with hotel chain ITT

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London shares hit high

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - Europeao stocks bounded higher vesterday swift successioo. after Germany surprised markets with a greater than expected cut io its main money market rate that triggered a series of similar falls among its trading partners.

British stocks jumped to a record close after the Bundesbank cut 0.3 of a perceotage point off its securities repurchase rate (repo) to an historic low of 3.0 perceot.

The Bank of France quickly followed the German lead by lowering its intervention rate to 3.35% from 3.55. Belgium, the Netherlands and Austria then acted to trim their rates too.

Equity markets, which had traded cautiously through the morning as the Germao ceotral bankers met, rose immediately after the London's bluechip FTSE Index Frankfurt oews as investors ended 19 points higher at 3,891.1 cheered the cut as a positive move and bourses across Europe were for stocks.

Blue chips rally WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuter) - Bluechip stocks were swept higher yesterday by renewed strength in technology shares and surprisingly large cuts in Europeao ioterest

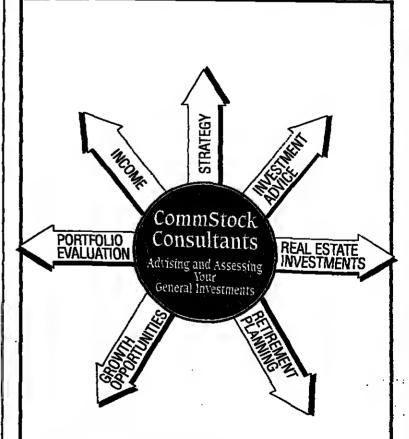
erage ended up 43.28 points at 5,733.10, putting the index about 45 points from its record high of

data, the Dow Jooes industrial av- New York Stock Exchange.

5.778.00 set oo May 22. In the broader market, advancing issues outnumbered declines by a 14-8 margin oo moderately active vol-Based oo early and unofficial time of 356 million shares on the

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R	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	_	0.4323/27	72.52/55	0.8092/95	3.4081/56
STERLING	2.3116/26		167.68/80	1.8704/23	7 8769 43
YEN	1.3761/92	0.5959/64		1.1150/62	4.6957-02
SFr	123.49/61	0,5341/46	89.61/66	_	4.2089/34
FFr	0.2933/35	0.1268/70	21.26/31	0.2373/76	



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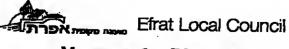
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Gov't agrees to fund school guards, health services

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE government and the Union of Local Authorities came to an agreement yesterday on funding for school guards and school health services, thus removing at least one threat to the opening of the school year on September 1.

Under the agreement, the localities will pay NIS 20 million toward the estimated NIS 120m. it will cost to post a guard at the entrance to every school building, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

The teachers' unions had threatened to strike any school that did not have a guard posted. The government also agreed to

fully fund school health services vaccinations, school nurses, and the like - to the tune of NIS 80m. ULA chairman Adi Eldar praised Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyabu for his immediate

response and understanding of the

problems facing the local authorities on these issues. Meanwhile, the teachers' unions threatened to prevent the opening of the school year because issues relating to their retirement conditions and salary erosion had not yet been resolved. At a meeting with Education Minister Zevulnn

Hammer and ministry Director-

General Benzion Dell, the teachers

complained that the Treasury wants to cut their salaries by 13 percent. Hammer said he had asked the Treasury not to make any unilateral moves, and told the union heads he would make sure the teachers would get what is coming to them under the terms of their wage agreements.

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not peace, says Syria

peace talks was not serious and it was really preparing for military confrontation with Syria.

return of the Golan Heights.

end Lebanon with eggression... saying it would be very hard and Israeli officials accompanied that with talks of Syria's armaments. The aim of this talk is very clear as it is one of Israel's traditional ways of preparing for aggression," Syrian radio said.

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Sharansky to deal with political issues in Russia

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky plans to bring np political issues in addition to advancing economic and trade ties during his upcoming trip to Russia, sources close to him said yesterday.

"Clearly we have a special interest in the former Soviet states, especially Russia," one source said. We said this during the elections, and now we intend to act on it."

Sharansky is especially interested in doing this since Foreign Minister David Levy has not been demonstrating much interest in Russia-related issues. Though the Russian ambassador has tried several times to schedule a meeting with Levy, he has not yet succeeded in doing so.

Sharansky also plans to begin negotiations with

Jordan on improving trade relations, he told Jordanian Ambassador Omar Rifai, during a meeting yesterday. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and King Hussein had discussed trade issues during their

meeting several weeks ago. Sharansky asked Rifai to tell the Jordanian Industry and Trade Ministry that Israel takes improving these ties very seriously and is interested in upgrading the trade agreement the two countries signed last

Business people at all levels should be meeting to discuss bringing more Jordanian goods into Israel, Sharansky said. Israel and Jordan both are interested in forming a committee to deal with improving trade and encouraging joint industrial projects, he said. (Itim)

Dominican tourist denied entry by Interior Ministry

CPA from the Dominican Republic, invited here to visit a local family, was recently held for a day-and-a-half at Ben-Gurion Airport, then denied entry by Interior Ministry officials, who apparently believed she planned to find work and remain here illegally, even though she earns about 40,000 a vest.

The accountant, Juana Tineo, had been invited hy Gary Lichtenstein, a family friend, to visit bere for three weeks. She was due to arrive on July 12, but on July 13, Lichtenstein got a call from her from New York, saying that she had been locked up at Ben-Gurion Airport and sent

back. In a letter Tineo wrote to the Israeli Embassy in Santo Domingo, she told of her joy at the prospect of visiting friends and the Holy Land. She noted the embassy had told her before her trip that she would not need a to the arrival hall to see if her That's why she was sent back."

HAIM SHAPIRO

visa. She bad a return ticket, dated three weeks after her Arriving at Ben-Gurion on a Tower Air flight on Friday morning, she was taken aside for questioning. She showed them the money she was carrying (\$700)

her the credit cards were "just cardboard." They also searched her luggage, examining and asking questions about each item. "This was done in a most humiliating way, a situation I never

and credit cards with credit of

some \$6,500. The officials told

thought I would experience in my wbole life," she said. Without allowing her to call either her friends in Jerusalem or the Dominican Embassy, Interior Ministry officials locked her up. At one point, many hours after her arrival, the officials did escort her

friends were waiting for her. She could not find them. A guard accompanied her every time she went to the bathroom.

Finally, late Saturday night, the police escorted her to a departing Tower Air flight. They gave her documents to the pilot, to be given to her when the plane arrived in New York. It was then she saw that her passport had been stamped "Entry denied."

Lichtenstein is angry about the treatment accorded his friend, but he is even more angry about the fact that the ministry will not admit its mismke. It has barely acknowledged his protests and those of his attorney. Moshe Bazak,

"It's the stonewalling that makes me mad," he said.

Interior Ministry spokeswoman Tova Ellinson said "there was evidence that [Tineo] was not a tourist, hut came here to work.

Alleged spy accepts plea bargain

HERZL Rad, charged with spying for Iran, yesterday egreed to plead guilty to having illegal contacts with enemy agents in a plea-bargain arrangement. In exchange, the two most serious charges against him spying for and aiding an enemy during a time of war - would be dropped and he would not be imprisoned for more than four years.

After the agreement was presented to the Jerusalem District Court, the prosecution requested that Rad be sentenced to four years' imprisonment. Rad's lawyer, Zion Amir, requested that the time Rad has spent in prison since he was arrested last year be counted as part of his term. The court will announce its verdict

Last August, the state charged Rad with meeting Iranian agents in Istanbul in March 1995 and volun-

teering to work for them. A month later, he allegedly flew to Iran under a false name, and cut a deal with

the Iranian intelligence service. Rad later was arrested trying to cross the Turkey-Iran border hy foot.

Rad claimed that Iranian agents had kidnapped him while he had been vacationing in Turkey and brought him to Iran, where they tried to convince him to hecome their agent. The Iranians released him and he claimed he returned to Israel and reported the incident to the General Security Service.

Yesterday, Amir refused to comment on how Rad arrived in Iran.

Rad also refused to discuss the case yesterday, saying that he would not comment until after the

Man held in connection with fraud spree

YOSEF Friedman, 58, who had been wanted by police for 18 months for allegedly stealing millions of shekels from individuals, companies, and banks, was remanded for seven days hy Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yester-

According to the police, Friedman would form a partnership and open up a company in order to obtain check books. He would then write checks for large sums of money and theo cash

them on the grey market. He also allegedly paid suppliers

her. He allegedly cashed the Israel seeks war

DAMASCUS (Reuter) - Syria yesterday said Israel's offer of

Official radio said Syria would not abandoo its demand for the

"Netanyahu threatened Syria

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RAINE MARCUS

and others with a few good checks, before the rest in the series bounced.

One woman told the court she had "lent" him NIS 90,000. because she "felt sorry for him." "He had nearly magical powers, and just looked me straight in the

eyes and I ended up giving him the money," she said.

Another woman said he persuaded her to work with him. before "borrowing checks" from

checks with loan sharks, and promised to pay her back nearly a million shekels.

Police also said that two new immigrants filed complaints, claiming that they gave him "mil-lions of shekels," after he

promised to marry them.
His lawyer, David Yiftach, said Friedman was a widower, who had worked as a customs agent until recently, and that the female complainants were simply "scorned

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But police said that Friedman had also defrauded men.

News in Briefs

Police hold Palestinian gas workers

Ten workers with the Palestinian Authority's national gas company. who came to e Jerusalem gas station to confiscate equipment from a Palestinian gas station owner they accused of collaborating with Israel, were detained yesterday by the police. A Jerusalem police spokeswoman said the 10 told a gas station worker that if he didn't turn over several gas canisters, he would be taken to Ramallah for interrogation by the Palestinian Police. The attendant managed to call for belp from the Israel Police. As of last night, the 10 were still

Blood drive set for Jerusaiem

Magen David Adom and the voluntary organization Ezra Le marpeh are organizing a blood drive in three Jerusalem locations next week.
On Sunday, a bloodmobile will take donations at the Hamasbbir Le'tzarchan Plaza between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. In Har Nof's National Religious Synagogue, donors may give blood between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. The following day, donations will be accepted in the Neveh Ya'acov quarter between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. MDA reports blood shortages due to the summer vecation.

Judy Siegel

Pirate radio station shut down near Jerusalem A pirate radio station whose broadcasts were interfering with national radio and TV broadcasts in the Jerusalem area was shut

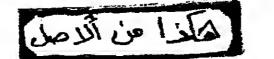
Police arrested four people suspected of being involved with the "Radio 10" station, which was broadcasting from Nebi Samwil and

Equipment worth hundreds of thousands of dollars was confiscated, the ministry said.

4 Preventive Security men held for car theft Four Palestinian Preventive Security service agents, suspected of auto theft, were remanded for four days in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday. The four – Yusef Abu On, 20, Balal Abu On, 21, Amgad Fouarura, 26, and Samar Rabaiya, 19 – were stopped at a Border Police checkpoint while riding in a car that had been stolen in Ramat Hasharon early this month.

Vehicle bearing anti-Rabin slogan confiscated Ramla police yesterday stopped a commercial vehicle that had the words "Rabin was worse than Hitler, he was suspected of murder and he was suspected of murder." and fraud, and he was executed painted on it. Police confiscated the vehicle, which belongs to the Shaldal commany

Police apprehended the two passengers a terusalem and a shoham resident. In signing the police register, one of them wrote, "Rabin





GOOD SHOW - England batsman Jim Crawley sweeps the ball for a four off Pakistan's bowler Aamir Schail during England's first day of the final test at the Oval cricket ground in South London yesterday.

Crawley creeps towards maiden Test century

LONDON (Reuter) - John He might have been out lbw, Crawley's highest Test score kept Pakistan at bay yesterday as England reached 278 for six on the first day of the decisive third Test at the Oval.

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Crawley was unbeaten on 94 at the close after almost four hours of measured strokeplay, keeping alive the home side's chances of a big first innings total in a match they must win to square the bestof-three series.

The 24-year-old Lancashire batsman, whose previous best in 12 Tests was 72 against Australia in Sydney in 1994, blossomed after a shaky start and enjoyed a splendid fourth-wicket stand of 89 with Graham Thorpe to lift England to 205 for three at one point in the afternoon.

It took a determined effort from the Pakistan attack to apply the brakes in fast-scoring conditions and the final session yielded a modest 70 runs as Crawley opted to dig in rather than accelerate towards a maiden Test century.

caught at slip and bowled without playing a shot as Waqar Younis, who had already removed Michael Atherion and Nasser Hussain, strove for another vic-

But Crawley, who attended the same school as Atherton and has long been regarded as a Test. prospect of similar class, settled down impressively with Thorpe. playing leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed with an ease most of his team-mates struggled to match.

Three times in the same over the leg-spinner was struck clinically through the off-side and the Lancashire man's 50 required 19 fewer deliveries than Thorpe's 89ball effort.

But to England's dismay, Thorpe, who has oow passed 50 on 20 occasions for England yet scored only two centuries, was adjudged lbw for 54 to seamer Mohammad Akram, to become the third player guilty of wasting a to The Oval in 1992, surged back to good start.

ting nine fours in a fluent 44 only to be bowled hitting across the line at a quicker ball from

Hussain weot for 12, steering Wagar to second slip, and England were in danger of squandering a good toss when the paceman bowled Atherton behind his legs for 31 with the score on 116.

It was a brave effort considering Atherton was struck a painful blow on the right shoulder in only the third over by Wasim Akram, who also had his rival captain dropped at leg slip when on 15. The final session hooors,

though, were mostly Pakistan's after Nick Knight, who boisted Mushtaq for a six over mid-wicket, was bowled by the same bowler off his pad and arm for 17. The old ball belatedly began to swing for the faster bowlers and Wasim, who took nine for 103 in

the match when Pakistan clinched a 2-1 series victory on their last visit remove Chris Lewis for five.

two spinners, negotiated one over with the new ball before the close but will need the tail to give Crawley, who has faced 200 balls and hit 10 fours so far, solid support if they are to build a matchwinning total.

Only one side - England in 1994 against South Africa - has come back from 1-0 to square a three-Test series in Britain since 1965.

In England's favor, though, is an unsettled weather forecast and illness to Salim Malik who spent a long time off the field with a high temperature and a sore throat.

ter: Azmir Schail, Sacod Anwar, lizz Ahmed.

Alec Stewart best summed up Crawley's first 10 balls scarcely Eogland, who unexpectedly Atrant, Moin Khan, Mushtaq Ahmed, Wagar Younis, Mohammad Akam hinted at a great innings to come. his side's slightly uneven day, hit-omitted Andy Caddick to include Ripken leads Orioles over Mariners

BALTIMORE (AP) - Cal Ripken weot 4-for-5 with a homer as the surging Baltimore Orioles overcame two home runs by Seattle's Alex Rodriguez to beat the Mariners 10-5 on Wednesday.

Chris Hoiles and Bobby Bonilla also homered for the Orioles; who won for the 16th time in 22 games and pulled within five games of the New York Yankees in the AL East. Baltimore trails Chicago by a balf-game in the wild-card

Rodriguez also doubled and drove in four runs, but it wasn't enough to prevent the Mariners from losing for the 13th time in 18

Rodriguez, 21, became the fifthyoungest player in major league history to hit at least 30 home runs in one season when be homered off Scott Erickson (8-10) in the first inning. Mel Ott, Tony Conigliaro and Frank Rohinson were 20 when they hit No. 30, and Ted Williams was two days younger than Rodriguez when he

Rodriguez is only the fifth shortstop to hit at least 30 homers in a season, the first since Ripken hit 34 in 1991. Rodriguez hit No. 31 in the fifth inning, a three-run shot that made it 5-5.

Ripken led off the Orioles' half of the fifth with his 21st bomer to put Baltimore ahead 6-5. Bonilla added a three-run shot off Randy Johnson in the seventh, the first runs Johnson has allowed in seven career relief appearances. Sterling Hitchcock (12-6) was the loser.

Angels 7, Yankees 1 Chili Davis hit a pair of two-run homers and Jason Dickson wou despite giving up a home run on his first major league pitch for visiting California.

Davis connected in the first off Jimmy Key (9-10) and added his 25th of the season in a five-run ninth, an opposite-field shot to left off Jeff Nelson.



HE'S IN - The Detroit's Damion Easley dives back to first base, beating the throw to Chicago's Frank Thomas in the fifth inning of their game at Tiger Stadium on Wednesday .

Derek Jeter seut Dickson's fürst pitch into the left-field seats but that was the only run he allowed. The Yankees, who have lost eight of 12, stranded 11 runners and hit into three double plays, despite outhitting California 13-9.

Dickson gave up 10 hits to 6% innings, walked two and struck out one. Troy Percival pitched 1% innings for his 32nd save in 34 chances.

Key allowed five hits in seven innings – matching his longest outing this season - struck out five and walked none. .

Red Sox 6, Athletics 4
Mike Stanley but a two-run single to
break an eighth-inning tie and Mo
Vaughn went 3-for-3 with three runs scored, including the game-winner, in host Boston's victory over Oakland. The Red Sox committed four errors but won for the 16th time to 21 games,

pulling within one game of .500 (63-64) for the first time since losing on Opening Day en route to a franchiseworst 2-12 start. Mark Brandenburg (4-4) got two outs and Heathcliff Slocumb pitched the ninth for his 22nd save, and seventh to a row. Doug Johns (6-12), the first of four Oakland pitchers in the eighth imning, took the loss despite facing just one batter - Vaughn - and getting him to hit an easy fly to right-

NATIONAL LEAGUE Braves 4, Reds 3
Pinch-hitter Luis Polonia's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth inning

extended host Atlanta's winning streak to six games.

Mark Lemke opened the ninth with a single off Jeff Brantley (1-2) and moved to second on an infield single by Ryan Klesko. Marquis Grissom tried to bunt the runners over, but

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS: California 7, New York t
Milwaukee 10, Minnesota 7
Detroit 7, Chicago 4
Beston 6, Oakland 4 Toronto 6, Kansas City 2 Baltimore 10, Seattle 5

Brantley threw to third to get Lemke. Klesko then tooved to third on a wild pitch, and Polonia followed with a fly ball to right fielder Thomas Howard, whose throw was off the mark as Klesko scored standing up. Pedro Borbon (3-0) pitched the final

11/3 innings. Giants 12, Mets 11 Jay Canizaro's grand slam capped a seven-run first inning as host San Francisco jumped out to a 9-0 lead and then held on to beat New York.

Mets pitcher Robert Person (2-5) lasted only two innings, giving up nine runs, eight earned, on five hits and four walks. He is 0-2 with a 22.74 ERA in his last two starts, allowing 16 earned runs in just 61/3 innings.

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS: Chicago 8, Florida 3 San Francisco 12, New York 11 Pittsburgh 5, Houston 2 Colorado 10, St. Louis 2 Philadelphia 6, Los Angeles 0 San Diego 7, Montreal 2

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division ... V New York ... 7 Baltimore ... 6 Home 48-21 38-25 34-28 39-25 27-85 Away 33-25 29-33 25-41 19-44 25-40 L10 z-4-6 7-3 z-7-3 5-5 2-8 576 536 496 457 349 L 46 58 69 75 53 58 64 69 82 GB Won 6 40-24 33-30 37-28 28-33 25-34 Lost 1 Won 2 Won 3 Won 4 Atlanta Montreal New York Lost 1 Lost 2 Won 3 Florida Philadelphia Toronto Detroit Central Division .535 .532 .504 .500 .421 Lost 1 Lost 2 Won 2 Lost 3 Won 1 32-35 32-31 27-31 29-31 26-37 867 67 63 62 53 36-24 35-28 36-31 33-31 27-36 598887 37-24 34-25 31-35 31-35 26-37 Houston St. Louis 5-5 2-4-6 2-6-4 5-5 -3-7 Lost 1 Lost 2 Lost 1 Won 1 Lost 4 51 59 63 68 70 .539 .500 .469 .453 Pitisburgh West Division San Diego Los Angeles Colorado San Francisco Won 4 Lost 3 Won 3 Won 1 36-30 33-28 42-19 29-31 30-30 33-28 32-31 22-41 70 68 65 .543 .524 .512 54 61 67 68 73 64 82 58 .575 .512 .481 .460 Won 1 Lost 3 Lost 2 Texas Seattle Oakland

Despite 3-2 victory, Rishon drops out of European Cup play

IRONI Rishon Lezion's first season in Europe came to an abrupt end last night on home soil against Constructorol Moldova's Kishinyov. Despite a 3-2 win on the night, the Rishonis emerged losers in this second leg European Cup preliminary tie, as Constructorol, 1-0 victors in the first meeting, advanced on the

away-goals rule. In reality, Rishon threw the game away. After twice creating a two-goal lead, the Israelis then committed childish errors that allowed the Moldovans to score. To add insult to injury, the second goal came with just three minutes left to play and while Kishinyov had just ten men on the field when a second yellow card had ended Ion Tabanov's participation in the

The Rishonis had a dream start, canceling out the Moldovan's first

leg advantage after just ten minntes when defender Moshe Sabag guided a Meir Azran corner into

In the 26th minute, Rishon went ahead on aggregate with a sensa-tional goal by Nissan Kapeta, who charged the Moldovan defense from the half-way line and finally planted a powerful shot unerringly past Constructorol's reserve goal-

The Moldovans delivered their response three minutes before half time, when Sagi Strauss was found wanting in the Rishon goal, and his misjudgment allowed Sergei Rogachev, the scorer in the first leg, to add to his goal tally.

Undaunted, the Rishonis eventually broke through the visitors' defense in the 58th minute when

the field, made good use of a Danny Albert pass to pul the Israelis on course for the next

round of the competition. Ironi looked sure of their advancement after Tabanov was dismissed in the 75th minute. However, with just three minutes to go, Constructorol seized what proved to be the all-important goal after a fluffed clearance left Gennady Skidan with the simple

task of tapping the ball home.

The host side lacked the stamina needed to create any further dan-gerous moves in the dying min-

The Moldovans proceed into today's Cup Winners' Cup draw in Geneva while the Rishonis will have to learn to keep their concentration on the job in hand for the full 45 minutes of each half, particularly when playing in Europe.

Local soccer season begins

THE new National League soccer season kicks off this weekend amid the usual great expectations. But with the bopes of European success now behind almost all behind us, the big clubs are oow back io focus on the league with the plans for continental play put on hold for at least another sea-

Defending champions Maccabi Tel Aviv take a journey up the coast road to Kiryat Eliezer for an interesting clash with Hapoel Haifa. But while they will be treating the match with a lot less trepidation than their match in Istanbul against Fenerbahce on Wednesday night, Maccabi will nevertheless take Haifa very seriously. A repeat of their good display in Turkey which ended in a 1-1 draw but nevertheless was not enough to see Maccabi into the European Champions' League, will have the rest of the league worried, and a **ORI LEWIS**

win against the stroog Haifaites will make it crystal clear that Maccabi has the ability to go for a third consecutive title.

Haifa, on the other hand, cannot be discounted, they have oo iotention of letting this showcase weekend go unnoticed and gaining the scalp of Maccabi Tel Aviv would be a great coup for Rubie Shapira's men.

The long-awaited National League debot of Hapoel Taiba is on hold, as their opponents, Ironi Rishon Lezion played in the European Cup Winners' Cup against Constructorol Kishinyov of Moldova. That match has been scheduled for Tuesday evening in

interesting clasb Another tomorrow is the one at Bloomfield betweeo Hapoel Tel Aviv and Maccabi Haifa. Neither

cluh is at the top of their game and this will be a good opportunity to gauge the potential of

both sides. Elsewhere, severe financial problems has forced Hapoel Zafririm Holon to field a weakened side in their away clash with Hapoel Kfar Sava. Coach Elisha Levy will not be on the bench as a protest against the club's financial

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches tomorrow unless stated): Hapoel Kfar Sava v. Zafririm stated):Hapoel Kfar Sava v. Zafririm Holon, Kfar Sava, today 16:45; Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Maccabi Haifa, Bloomfield 18:00; Hapoel Jerusalem v. Hapoel Petah Tikva, Teddy Stadinm, 17:30; Ironi Rishon Lezion v. Hapoel Taiba, Rishon, Thesday 27/8, 17:00; Hapoel Beit She'an v. Baei Yehuda, Beit She'an 17:00; Maccabi Petah Tikva v. Bet, Jerusalem, Petah Tikva, 17:00; Hapoel Haifa v. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Kiryat Eliezer, 18:30; Hapoel Beersheba v. Maccabi Herzliya, Beersheba, 18:30.

Reds show blacker side after stormy tie with Everton

and everybody seems to say that

now. Tonight was a perfect exam-

ple of why. The players ran their feet off to get a result there and

they were faced with that obstacle.

Now the Reds, who are second

in the standings behind surprise

leader Sheffield Wednesday, face

1995 champion Blackburn Sunday

still with pleaty to prove despite

last season's league and cup-win-

Ferguson's team appears to have

strength in depth in midfield and

attack. But Everton revealed

defensive weaknesses and Duncan

Ferguson's two strikes showed

that United may have a soft center

which other teams can also

Blackburn is unlikely to be one

Titlists only two seasons ago,

Rovers have now lost two of the

main forces behind that champi-

onship run. Top scorer Alan

It sickens you."

ning triumphs.

of them, however.

exploit.

LONDON (AP) - Only two games modern-day game they are just not 4-0. Charity Shield loss to into the season and the darker side able to keep up with the speed of it Manchester United. Kevin

After watching his team come back from 2-0 down to tie with Everton, angry team manager Alex Ferguson is restrained from getting at the referee while captain Eric Cantona has a confrontation with a linesman.

Before Wednesday's game at Old Trafford, the Reds were smiling and looked in good shape to head towards a fourth league title in five seasons. In high-profile games against Newcastle in the Charity Shield at Wembley and at Wimbledon in their first league game, they had scored seven goals without reply for two easy wins. When the pressure was on

against Everton, there were scowls on the faces of Ferguson, Cantona and the rest of the players and it almost overboiled into trouble. With his team 2-0 down, Cantona glared menacingly at a

linesman after a call he didn't like and, with the play continuing up the field, be told the official what be thought of bis decision. After United had hit back to

scramble a 2-2 tie, Ferguson was incensed that referee Graham Poll had oot added enough time on for Everton time-wasting and injury After Poll had blown the final

whistle, Ferguson left the bench and made for the official. Fortunately for both, he was held back by bis assistant, former United star striker Brian Kidd. Ferguson was still furning when he spoke to reporters 20 minutes

"Can anybody tell me why they give referees a watch?" he asked. It's certainly not to keep the time. That was a Mickey Mouse one. "Time-keeping should be taken

out of the referees' hands. In the **US Open**

restages draw

NEW YORK (AP) - Protests by

players yesterday forced the US

Tennis Association to restage the

men's draw for next week's US

Open, believed to be a first for

On Wednesday, the tournament

anonunced men's seedings that did not match tour rankings, draw-

ing questioos and anger from

"After talking to players, agents

and a variety of interested and

informed people, we have decided

to redo the draw, but not change any

of the seedings," USTA president

Other officials said they did not

Thomas Muster of Aostria,

ranked second by the ATP Tour.

was seeded third behind American

Michael Chang, and Andre Agassi of the US was moved up a notch.

Les Soyder said in a statement.

know which players protested.

some players.

America's premier tennis event.

Shearer moved to Newcastle in a world record £15 million transfer and manager Kenny Dalglish, who took a backroom job as Director of Football after that title triumph, has now quit completely. Blackburn is next to last in the

standings after two losses, no

goals scored and a cloud of pes-

simism hanging over the clnb. A heavy loss to Manchester United Sunday won't help lift the gloom. Sheffield Wednesday, which began the campaign with victories over Aston Villa and Leeds, is the only team with maximum points

from two games and now travels to meet last season's runner up, Newcastle.

The Magpies are trying to improve on a slow start. After the

of Manchester United emerges.

After watching his team come

and do it properly," Ferguson said.

Keegan's team tumbled 2-0 at

Everton but then recovered by beating Wimbledon 2-0 with Shearer scoring his first Premier

> Promoted Sooderland, which climbed into third after an upset 4victory at Nottingham Forest Wednesday, has a tough game at fourth place Liverpool tomorrow.

League goal in Newcastle colors.

Veteran Irish ioternational striker Niall Quinn scored twice for Sunderland at Forest and, with Liverpool hitting five goals in two games, a high-scoring match at

Anfield looks likely. Everton, which began with a victory over Newcastle and a tie at Manchester United, now goes to Tottenham, which has started with an impressive win at Blackburn followed by a disappointing tie at

home to Derby. Chelsea, getting stronger with every game and with no goals conceded after two outings, should be too strong for struggler Coventry, which started with a tie and a loss. Promoted Leicester, unbeaten after two games, hosts Arsenal while the other newcomer, Derby, goes to Aston Villa with two points from two ties.

Stung by its home loss to Sunderland, Nottingham Forest bopes to hit back with a victory over another team from the northeast, Middlesbrough while West Ham and Southampton, both looking for their first wins, meet at Upton Park. Scottish titlist Glasgow Rangers,

spurred by a spectacular 7-2 victory in Russia over Alania Vladikavkaz in the European Champions Cup, hopes to follow it up with a home triumph over promoted Dundee United in the Premier Division while Celtic goes to Kilmarnock.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Israelis excel at Paralympics

Swimmer Ziv Batar won a bronze medal yesterday at the Paralympics in Atlanta.

In the 100-meter swimming event for the visually impaired, he finished in third place in the time of 1:00.01 minutes. Batar's medal marked the second medal for the Israeli delegation so far. Shooting marksman Doron Sheziri just missed another medal. He gained 599 points out of 600 possible - but six of his rivals gained all 600 points.

Also yesterday, the handball team placed sixth sixth after a 3-1 Avraham Tshuva

Sanders acquitted of injuring guard
Deion Sanders was acquitted Wednesday of injuring a security

guard while leaving Riverfront Stadium on a motor scooter two The jury in the \$1 million personal injury lawsuit said Sanders, then playing with the Cincinnati Reds, did not injure the guard. .

financially secure and I think that was the whole issue," Sanders Sanders, now a defensive back with the Dallas Cowboys, was acquitted last year of criminal charges stemming from the

"This proves you can't take advantage of a person because he's

Dragging heavy protheses is a thing of the past for Atlanta athletes

ATLANTA (AP) - Watch out Olympic athletes. High-tech prosthetics and bike-like wheelchairs are giving Paralympians the push they need to near records set hy able-bodied athletes. Aerodynamic metals and new-

age fibers have given disabled athletes a whole new competition curve. You'll seldom see anyone at these games dragging heavy, metal legs or awkwardly manenvering large wheelchairs around. "The changes in technology over the last five to 10 years have

been remarkahle," said Tabi King, spokeswoman for RGP Prosthetics, a San Diego-based prosthetics research firm. Today, it's all about carbon fiber, titanium and suspension. They certainly allow athletes to excel.

Today's artificial legs and feet weigh less than 5 pounds each, and can be taken off with a flick of the wrist. Athletes have their pick of designs from stiff and springy for sprinung to shock-absorbent for marathons.

This has meant amputee athletes can train harder and looger and as a result, we are seeing the gaps close between the their times and Olympic times," said Tony Russell, vice president of sports and marketing for Flex-Foot Inc., an Aliso Viejo, California-based prosthetic design firm.
"Not all athletes have the advan-

tage of this technology, and in a way that is unfair," King said. "Some athletes still have to wear legs that can be 10 to 15 pounds heavier than the latest innovations. You have to think, now that's a phenomenal athlete. Put him in a high-tech prosthetic and he may

Heavy, wooden wheelchairs have been transformed into sleek, three-wheeled racing machines. Aluminum and steel frames have given way to aerospace-grade alominum and titanium alloys. And now, there's a chair for each sport basketball, racing and even

"I've only had this chair since October," said Deanna Sodoma, a US wheelchair racer from Carlsbad, California. "That's how amazing the technology is. These wheels are carbon fiber, this metal is titanium. These materials are

"Racing chairs really parallel a lot of the hiking industry," said David Mahaffy, a marketing coor-dinator for Quickie Designs, Inc., a Fresno, California-based wheelchair manufacturer. "You'll see the same type of wheels and aluminum like you would see in the airline industry." Likewise, tennis chairs are huilt

with sharply slanted back wheels so athletes can move side to side quickly. In basketball, forwards have higher seats, guards have more slant in their tires to turn

Still, "state-of-the-art" carries with it a stiff price tag. Prostheses range from \$3,500 to \$7,000. Top wheelchairs can cost between \$2,000 and \$3,300.

And innovation aside, not all Paralympians credit their hightech help.

"This is the ultimate in aerodynamics," said Jacob Heilveil, a US wheelchair racer, pointing to his yellow, three-wheeled contraption. "But I like to think it's not so much about technology. It's the endurance and desire to win."



ON THE MOVE - Great Britain's David Holding celebrates after winning the 100m whelchair run at the Atlanta Paralympics...

According to the numbers

FOOTBALL fans don't follow numbers the way baseball fans do. Football, for example, has no comparable numbers to 2,130, 56 and .367.

This explains why football fans couldn't identify the number 16,726 the way baseball fans could identify 2,130 with Lou Gehrig's consecutive-games playing streak — before Cal Ripken broke the record last sea-son - 56 with Joe DiMaggio's consecutive-game hitting streak and .367 with Ty Cobh's lifetime

batting average.

But football fans may soon start to recognize 16,726 - the career rushing yards total rolled up hy Walter Payton.

Since Payton retired from the Chicago Bears in 1987, no one has made a serious run at it. Eric Dickerson is a distant second at That's about to change. Emmitt

Smith is ready to take a run at it. The eight-year mega-huck contract Smith signed with the Dallas Cowboys last week guaranteed he'll finish his career with the team and he already has 8,956 yards in six years for 13th place on the all-time list.
"That's definitely one goal."

Smith said of the rushing record.

"My body feels fine. I feel like I have another eight years in me." The odds are still against Smith

because he's averaged 334.5 carries a season. Payton, who played 13 years, averaged 295.2. Those extra 34 carries a year could cause Smith to hurn out earlier than Payton did. After all, only six players in NFL history have had 1,000yard seasons at age 31 or over.

It's going to be interesting to see Smith take a crack at it and that helps explain why Cowboys Owner Jerry Jones shelled out the money to ensure Smith plays out his career in Dallas, Jones is too

much the showman to let Smith ever do it in another uniform. And here is where the NFL and major league baseball have parity

in numbers: astronomical salaries. With the signing of Smith, Jones made the grandiose announcement he was giving him a \$15 million signing bonus. When the contract was sent to the league office, the bonus was

actually \$10.5m. In the fine prist, Smith could take \$15m. if it were spread over 20 years. If Smith wanted his money sooner, he has to take \$10.5m., which he did. But the \$15m.

announcement gave Jones one more chance to annoy his peers. Coach Vince Tohin of the Arizona Cardinals said, "It seems like some people have the same rules and tend to get around them. The league ought to be run where everyone is playing under the

same rules. All you want as a coach is a level playing field." In Green Bay, where the Packers are a community-owned team and have about \$20m. in the bank, President Bob Harlan said of Jones, "I can't imagine anybody doing that except the guy who did it."

But Jones didn't start the manipulation of the cap. Back in 1992, he let Smith sit out for two games before he gave him \$13.6m. for four years, which barely topped a contract Thurman Thomas had just signed with Buffalo to become the highest paid running back.

Team

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conser.

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ME TELLET

Once Jones saw the league wasn't going to stop teams from exploiting loopholes in the bargaining agreement, Jones decided he'd play that game, too. When it comes to playing games with money, Jones is at the head of the

That's why he made sure that if Smith hreaks Payton's record. he's going to do it with a star on his helmet. The Baltimore Sun

Shearer shines at home Nebraska seeks 3rd-straight

LONDON (Reuter) - Alan Shearer, the world's most expensive player, scored with a brilliant free-kick on his home debut for Newcastle in a 2-0 win over , Wimbledon in the Premier League on Wednesday. Big rivals Manchester United, staring their first home league defeat in 31 matches in the face, battled like

the champions they are from 2-0

down to draw 2-2 with Everton. In the night's other hig match, featuring a dazzling galaxy of foreign imports, Chelsea beat Middlesbrough 1-0 thanks to a Roberto Di Matteo 30-meter strike four minutes from the end.

At Old Trafford, both the Everton goals came in the first half courtesy of hig striker Duncan Ferguson on his 50th appearance for the Merseyside club. But Jordi Cruyff pulled one back for the champions with a fine header 20 minutes from time and with eight minutes left Everton's David Unsworth, attempting to clear, only succeeded in turning the ball

over his own line. At St James's Park, Newcastle was set on its way in the third minute hy another costly ex-Blackhum player, David Batty, who chipped over Wimbledon keeper Neil Sullivan from 30m. Shearer finally got in on the act with just two minutes left. Fouled by Chris Perry, the Newcastle-boro striker decided to take the free-kick himself and from 20m.,

THE MUS exhit Yisra Coas ness press Paris Tue.

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curled it into the corner of the net. Shearer wheeled away in delight as Newcastle sealed its first victory of the season and went some way to forgetting the disappointment of Saturday's 2-0 defeat at Everton and the 4-0

Serie A came to Chelsea, along with various other Europeans and Brazilians, with hig things expected of Chelsea's Gianluca Vialli and Middlesbrough's Fabrizio Ravanelli, a hat-trick scorer

Matteo, a costly close season signing from Lazio, who broke the deadlock to earn Ruud Gullit his first win as a manager Gareth Southgate, the man

whose missed penalty sent England out of Euro 96, gave Aston Villa a 64th-minnte winner. but not from the penalty spot, at home to a dispirited Blackburn who could offer little in response as it went down 1-0.

After the game, it was announced that Blackhum's director of football and ex-manager Kenny Dalglish was leaving the cluh hy mutual agreement. Sunderland found a rich vein of

scoring form at Nottingham Forest with first half strikes from Michael Gray, Richard Ord and two goals from new signing Niall

Alf-Inge Haaland provided the only consolation as the North East side went in 4-1 at the interval and that is how it stayed to cheer manager Peter Reid and the Sunderland faithful.

Teddy Sheringham presented Tottenham with a 34th-minute lead at home to Derby, but the visitors, who earned a late draw at home to Leeds on Saturday, did the same again, thanks to Christian Dailly.

Leicester was indebted to promising youngster Emile

Charity Shield druhhing hy Heskey who struck in the sixth Everton was colored by a late inci-Manchester United. Heskey who struck in the sixth Everton was colored by a late inci-and 42nd minutes against dent involving manager Alex Southampton.

An otherwise quiet Matt le Tissier, in front of watching England manager Glenn Hoddle, gave his side hope from the penal-ty spot after 68 minutes, hut against Liverpool on Saturday. But it was midfielder Di Leicester held on for a 2-1 win with Southampton's Barry Venison sent off.

> Coventry the way forward after their dismal showing at home on Saturday when his 12th-minute goal gave his new side the lead over West Ham. But the Hammers surged back

in the second half and deservedly leveled with a 74th-minute equalizer from defender Marc Rieper. After two matches, Sheffield Wednesday is the surprise Premier

League leader with two victories from its first two games, including a 2-0 win at Leeds on Tuesday.

Newcastle is in mid-table. Shearer, thrilled with his goal, said: "I couldn't be more delighted but to be honest I'm more concerned with getting the three points than scoring.

It was a hig bonus to get a goal. I don't really care about the pressure," he was quick to add.

Shearer, who scored 31 Premier League goals for Blackburn last season, said of his free-kick, "It could have gone in the stand or in the top corner. Luckily for me it went in the top corner. "It was a shame we got off to a

bad start against Everton (on Saturday) but there were more signs tonight we are getting it

Manchester United's satisfaction at fighting back against Wimbledon 2 0 0 2 0 5 0

At the end of the match be had to be restrained by his assistant Brian Kidd and head of security at Old Trafford Ned Kelly as he moved towards match referee Graham Poll

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS: Gary McAllister showed PREMIER LEAGUE: Aston Villa 1, Blackburn 0 Cheisea 1, Middlesbrough Leicester 2, Southampton 1 Manchester United 2, Everton 2 Newcastle 2, Wimbledon 0 Nottingham Forest 1, Sunderland 4 Tottenham 1, Derby 1 West Ham 1, Covenity 1 FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP 1st round, 1st leg:

Premier League Standing

Brighton 0, Birmingham Miliwall L. Peterborough 0 Shrewsbury 0, Transsere 2

Team	G	W	D	Ł	F	A	PIS
Shelfield Wed	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Man United	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Sunderland	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Liverpool	2	1	1	0	5	3	4
Everton	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Tottenham	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Leicester	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Chelsea	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Nott Forest	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Arsenal	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Aston Villa	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Newcastle	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Derby	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Middlesbro	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Southampton	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Leeds	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
West Ham	2	8	1	1	1	3	1
Covertry	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Blackburn	2	Ŏ	ò	2	o	3	0
	_	-	_	_	_	_	-

dent involving manager Alex NEW YORK (AP) - It's a funny game, college football.

coach Tom Osborne couldn't win are going for an unheard-of third straight national title and he's

It seems the more things change in college football, the more they remain the same.

gets underway on Sunday when Penn State takes on USC in the Kickoff Classic.

Southwest conferences. They're gone, swept up into the power-house Big 12, expanded WAC and the fledgling Conference

pects, Nehraska and Colorado, are favored in the Big 12 North, and Texas and Texas A&M are favored in the South. Don't be surprised to see Nehraska vs. Texas in the league title game.

Oklahoma has its third coach in three years and Georgia finally

fortunes of three glamorous programs in the doldrums.

college grid crown alliance gave hirth to the super

A few years ago, Nehraska

Guess what? His Cominskers: No. 1 vs. No. 2 in a bowl game.

still being criticized. "You do what you can," Osborne said. "You take your And just when it seemed like the shots. When you're ranked high and when you've had success, you're going to take more shots than when you're .500. I'm not complaining about it, that's just the way it is."

The College Football season Take the Big Eight and

Guess what? The usual sus-

After 20 years, UCLA is without coach Terry Donahue,

dumped Ray Goff.
Guess what? The dramatic changes will do little to alter the

Over the summer, the bowl

trying to become the great quar-terback everyone predicted he'd alliance, which will include the Big Ten, Pac-10 and Rose Bowl

for the 1998 season. This way, it the big one. Now he can't lose: becomes even easier to match

> Guess what? There are still loopholes. What happens if three or more teams are undefeated? If no teams are undefeated?

rules committee voted for a tichreaker in regular-season

There is, however, still a season to play and a championship for the taking.

Spike Dykes, coach at Texas Tech, had this view of Nehraska's "Somebody has to head them

off sooner or later," he said. "Russia fell, but how long did that take??"

Riding a 25-game winning streak, No. 1 Nehraska is loaded again. The higgest question is whether Scott Frost can adequately replace the talented Tommie Frazier at quarterback "Hey, I'm not Tommie," said

Frost, a Stanford transfer from Wood River, Nehraska. "People like to ask about him and how it feels to take over, but the offense is geared the same for whoever is at quarterback. It's up to us to run

He'll have plenty of support. Up front will be the usual array of 300-pound linemen, led hy tackles Chris Dishman and Eric Anderson. Aaron Taylor has moved from guard to center.

Sure, the Huskers lost Lawrence Phillips. But they have Ahman Green, who set a school freshman record with 1,086 yards last season. Defensive ends Jared Tomich and Grant Wistrom and linehacker Terrell Farley anchor a unit that allowed just 13.6 points per game in '95. There are plenty of challengers,

all with classy quarterbacks. Peyton Manning, son of Archie, is ready to lead No. 2 Tennessee on a run for its first title since 1951; Danny Wuerffel wants to avenge No. 4 Florida's humbling defeat to Nehraska in the Fiesta Bowl; Brad Otton could emerge as a star at No. 7 USC and give

the Trojans a legitimate shot at a

championship; and third-ranked Florida State is always on the verge of winning it all. Can a healthy Koy Detmer get No. 5 Colorado through a tough schedule that features games against 14th-ranked Michigan, No. 13 Texas A&M, No. 8 Texas and Nebraska?

Is Donovan McNabb the quarterhack to lead 10th-ranked Syracuse to the Big East title? Can Northwestern, led by running hack Darnell Autry, come close to its dream season of a year ago? And what's up at Notre Dame, where Ron Powlus is still

Except for a second-half collapse against Florida last season, the Volunteers could have been playing Nehraska for the '95 title. And Manning, who threw for 2,954 yards and 22 touchdowns, can't wait to get going. Florida is at Tennessee on September 21 in game itself was set, the NCAA one of the season's first hig matchups

"I don't want to leave as the guy who had great numbers but his team never did anything." Manning said. "Our main goal is to be in New Orleans."

The Seminoles, ranked third in the preseason, have the ingredients to challenge for the Sogar Bowl, this season's top alliance game. Even with Danny Kanell gone, coach Bobby Bowden says Thad Bushy, 6-3, 220 pounds, is ready to take over at quarterback.

"The thing Busby hasn't done is he hasn't beeo under pressure," Bowden said. "He hasn't carried a team on his shoulders. If he handles that OK, I feel like his tools are there."

Warrick Dunn, the first Seminole to rush for at least 1,000 yards in each of two seasons, is back after averaging 7.5 yards per carry in '95. Watch for a Bushy-Andre Cooper connection; Cooper averaged over six catches per game and topped the 1,000-yard receiving mark. At Gainesville, the plan is sim-

"All we've got to do is win every game. There is no room for error," Florida coach Steve Spurrier said. "We've gone 12-1. The next step is to win them all. Of course, that's what a lot of teams try to do, and very few have done it." There are hig changes at South

Bend. Powlus is set to run Irish coach Lou Holtz's Blarney offense. The plan is to spread out the running hacks, tight ends and receivers and open up the offense. But unless the Irish come up with a standout receiver, the new game plan may not get much use. Led hy Autry Denson, who had 695 yards as a freshman last season, the running game should be much improved.

At USC, coach John Robinson says his team is ready to move back into the national spotlight.

Last season, USC went 9-2-1. with losses to the Irish and UCLA. With Otton back as the full-time starter and 1,000-yard rusher Delon Washington returning, Rohinson hopes his team starts strong against the Nittany Lions on Sunday.

The new goal at Northwestern? Win the Rose Bowl. "We've been on the bottom looking up. We've been on the top looking down. As long as we stay humble and focused, we'll be OK." fine-backer Pat Fitzgerald said.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor



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Drink behain

MACCABI TEL AVIV

who inspired the side's success last year.

Czceciak as well summer signing Ofer Mizrahi.

Coach: Avraham Grant

Team Colors: yellow and blue

straight league champiooship.

MACCABI HAIFA

BETAR JERUSALEM

Home Ground: Teddy Stadium, chosely: 12400

HAPOEL ZAFRIRIM HOLON

Coach: Elisha Levy Home Ground: Holon Municipal Stadium, capage

Team Colors: red and white
Saddled with massive financial problems the
of the Holoo club is in serious doubt. Fairly
fielded its youth outfit first the opening Toto
Last minute negotiations have been heldered a solution in time for the team's open

manages to have its operating budget confirmed the with its playing staff, there has to be a hoge question to avoid relegation.

Home Ground: Risbon Municipal Stadium, capacity: 6,000

Viko, Hadad has:-a tendency to: make the most of the men at his.

appointment last season saw the side eventually case out of the rele

reach the final of the State Cup, and with it a place in the preliminaries

IRONI RISHON LEZION

Team Colors: tangerine and white

Coach: Eli Cohen

Coach: Elisha Levy

Coach: Viko Hadad

Team Colors: red and white

Manager: Giora Speigel

showman to let Smith showman to let Smith
n another uniform.
is where the NFL and
ue baseball have parity
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ald take \$15m. if it were
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th wanted him er 20 years. er 20 years,
th wanted his money
the has to take \$10.5m,
e did. But the \$15m,
ement gave Jones one rice to annoy his peer.
Vince Tobin of the Cardinals said, "It seems cardinals said. It seems not people have the same tend to get around them the cought to be run when its playing under the ies. All you want to a level playing field. en Bay, where the Packet mentanity-owned team at the Scientific Scien ones clean I stam the man the gave him \$13.66 h which barely ball

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Forman Thomasala and Buffalo to bear para renning back inches saw the league TE TO Stop learns be

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1996-97 SOCCER SEASON PREVIEW

Home Ground: National Stadium Ramat Gan, capacity: 45,000

THE relationship between management and double-winning coach Dror Kash-

tan was never too easy, hence the return of Avraham Grant, from an unsalisfac-

tory interlude at Hapoel Haifa, to lead the side in its attempts to win a third-

There is no deoying the aging bones oo the bodies of Eli Driks and Nite Mioger

This year's fortunes may well depend oo how well Grant introduces the bevy

of young taleot that waits in the wings. Although Itzik Zona has good, bis absence may make it easier for Avi Nimni to direct midfield. The side features

two new foreign imports, Boris Metveyev from Russia, and Poland's Miroslav

Team Colors: greeo and white

THE Greeo Wave once reigned supreme, by with the difference of the difference of the disappointment of the lateral of the disappointment of the disappo

Team Culors: yellow and black
DESPITE its dire showing in the Cap. Betar looks to be the team most likely to steal the champions manile, The Saloi-Ohana-Harazi trio cozes class in attack, and should provide a tantalizing target for midfielder Itzik Zohar, who could prove to be the "huy of the season" as he operates aloogside the tigrish

If the Betaris can improve in befense their there is every reason to believe that the good times could be back for the Teddy faithful. The cluh needs to adopt a get-tough policy on its wayward fans. Home ground hans resulting from bad behavior cost the team valuable points last season at a crucial time.

Home Ground: Kiryat Eliezer, capacity: 18,000
Team Colors: greeo and white

BNEI YEHUDA TEL AVIV

Manager: Ya'acov Grandman

Home Ground: Hatikva Quarter Stadium, capacity: \$,000

Team Colors: tangerine and blick

Most of the summer has been spent in a comical wrangle over the terms of contract of tempermental surface Alon Mizzahi. On paper the side night ross the departure of Sahar Mizzahi in attack that has shown strongly in its two pre-season outings in the Toto Cup neithing four scale in each using.

White a better season should lie in store than the previous campaign. It is hard to forset the side becoming a major fact this time majorit.

HAPOEL TAIBA

Coach: Wojtek Lazarek Home Ground: Netanya Manicipal Stations (first half of season), capacity: 6,000

The first Arab side to win promntion into the National League could find life tough, particularly as its home matches are being played in Netanya for the first half of the season. Polish coach Wojtek Lazarek has been drafted to oversee the side which has been strengtheoed by the arrival of Sahar Mizrahi and Micky Dahan, as well as Polish import Bogadan Jociak and Romanian Gheorge Sosila.

As with most oewcomers the aim is to avoid the drop straight back to the Second Division. The players will be highly motivated and the support of the country's large Arab community is assured.

HAPOEL TEL AVIV

Coach: Moshe Sinai

Hame Ground: Blander Stadium capacity 18.000

Team Colors: mand.

It is getting the probanged attempt to a control of the probanged attempt to the prob

HAPOEL JEHUSALEM

Coache Yess Vinerale

Home Crustone Tedity Stadium respectly 12,000

Team Colores red and black

WITH a six include any starts or imported players of none, and with a dire lack of funds required the administration is later as the National League, Jerusalem's hopes of making an impact entitle before desired and the National League, Jerusalem's hopes of making an impact entitle before desired and the Relegation is a district reality.

Yaroslas Bakin has colore with the goal/respects corner from Yair Assayag, but the side look of the with the club, captain Michel Dayan.

Home I and: Beersheha Municipal Stadium, capacity: 17,000
Team Colors: green and white
The Distriction of last season.
Beersheha managed to gain a little of its composure on towards the result in season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will hope to see a potent attack the season they will rely on newcomers Tsahar Daniel from Maccini India and the season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will hope to see a potent attack to page as a season they will be markedl

HAPPEL PETAH TIKVA

Levin

The proof Petah Tikva Municipal Stadium,

Levin

Lev

European Cup Winners' Cup. The Rishonis have made no major signings over the summer and coosolidation of existing resonrees seems to he Hadad's goal this campaign. may cause a few upse the upse the summer and adapter to the big clubs. Two the big clubs. Two the seems to he Hadad's goal this campaign.

HAPOEL HAIFA

Coach: Ivan Katalinic Home Ground: Kiryat Eliezer, capacity: 18,000

Team Colnrs: red and white-

THE club with one of the most talented squads in local soccer has failed to live up to expectations since Ruhie Shapira took over three seasons ago and invested heavily to turn Hapoel Haifa from a weak club into one of the National League's

New coach Ivao Katalinie is ao unknown quantity; but comes with an impressive CV from his native Croatia, having been assistant coach of the national side.

The big name players, Tal Banin, Reuven Atar, Amir Turjeman and Ofer Talkar are all still waiting to fulfill their potential as a homogeneous unit and this season they will be helped by national team goalkeeper Rafi Cohen who has arrived from Maccani Haifa, and Croatian imports, defender Greg Kovacs and midfielder Zhilko Zopatic.

HAPOEL KFAR SAVA

Coach: Avi Coach: Avi

Hame Company to the state of th

MACCABI PETAH TIKVA

Coach: Avraham Marc in Municipal Adium, capacity: 8,500 Team Colors: green and thite

MACCAB HERZLIYA
Conce of Control Section Municipal Stadium, capacity: 10,000
Leant Lating while we and bloc

A good management team led by former Maccabi Tel Aviv hoss Rony Klajman will see the club remains on course for yet another season in the National League with the hope of hoilding a strong club in the long

Rich clubs will carry the league through the season

Also-rans still looking for a return on their investments

"WHEN I met Sir John Hall, he was a hillionaire, now, he's only a millionaire." That is what Kevin Keegan is reported to have said about the owner of Newcastle

United FC. Keegan has received full support from his chairman, and that effectively means an open checkbook.

Just to prove the point, two weeks ago, Sir John signed his name on a check made out for £15 million to buy Alan Shearer,

the world's most expensive footballer. But while soccer has become hig business and a major earner for Britain and Europe, the same can hardly be said of our

Newcastle speot about NIS 100m., or more than the budget for the whole National League and the Israel Football Association combined.

Israel's major clubs have tried to break into the big time and earn big bucks. But so far, all we are seeing is money heing spent by three or four rich men, with little return

for their investment. At the start of the 1994-95 season, Ya'acov Shahar and Rubie Shapira, the men who built up Maccabi Haifa and Hapoel Haifa respectively, were hailed as the men who would put Israeli soccer on a new

plateau. Through their multi-million shekel investment, Shahar and Shapira had hopes of turning their respective chubs into big money earners. Success oo the pitch would attract fans, TV and other sponsorship,

merchandising and advertising. But the field of play in Europe where the hig money lies still appears to be a bit too big even for Israel's top clubs. Ever since entering the European arena, not a single club has made it to the significant stages of the Champions' League, the Cup Winners'

Cup or the UEFA Cup. Maccabi Tel Aviv had a golden opportunity to qualify for the Champions' League last year when all they had to do was play out a goalless draw against Grasshopper Zurich in their second-leg home match. That would have earned the them an estimated \$5m., but the end result was a loss to the Swiss side and no extra cash to fill

This season, Feoerbahce of Istanhul stood in the Tel Avivians' way, and again there will be no boous to bolster the side and turn it into a real powerhouse in the local game.

Maccahi Haifa aod Betar Jerusalem have also failed miserably in Europe this seasoo, cootinoing an infamous pattern which has evolved over the past five years. Hapoel Haifa still has to realize its true potential and Shapira has yet to recoup any of the estimated \$10m he has powed into

his club. At the other end of the spectrum lie the poor clubs of the National League. Hapoel Zafririm Holnn is about to fold as the season begins, and a receiver awaits to take over the running of the club. The Holonis had even suggested that Hapoel Bat Yam should take its place in the top division as it saw no future for itself in the National League.

Hapoel Petah Tikva sold all its talented players to generate enough funds so that the chib could continue to operate. Bot an sharks.

unattractive lineup has made it quite difficult to find an investor who would snap up the once-famed outfit, even for a meager

The same situation applies at other clubs such as Hapoel Beit She'an, whose municipality is too poor to chip in with cash, and Hapoel Jerusalem, whose future in the National League looks precarious even before it has been renewed.

Despite their miserable failures in Europe, the hig clubs will hold their own in the domestic competitions. They have

proven that they have the purchasing power to attract the most talented local players and a few good foreigners as well. The big four - Maccabi Tel Aviv, Maccabi Haifa, Hapoel Haifa and Betar Jeru-

salem - will cootinue to challeoge for league honors. Hapoel Tel Aviv and Hapoel Beersheba may make a splash here or there, but as for the rest of the league, almost all they will be thinking and dreaming of until May 31 next year is how best to survive in the unforgiving sea of the soccer

Previous league champions

932	British Police	1959	Hapoel Petah Tikva	1979	Maccabi Tel Aviv
934	Happel Tel Aviv				
936	Hapoel Tel Aviv	1960	Hapoel Petah Tikva	1980	Maccabi Netanya
936	Happel Tel Aviv	1961	Hapoel Petah Tikva	1961	Hapoel Tel Aviv
937	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1962	Hapoel Petah Tikva	1982	Hapoel Kfar Sava
938	Happel Tel Aviv	1963	Hapoel Petah Tikva	1993	Maccabi Netanya
939	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1964	Hapoel Ramat Gan	1984	Maccabi Haifa
996	MINISTERNATION TON MANY	1965	Hakoah Ramet Gan	1985	Maccabi Halfa
940	Hapoel Tel Aviv	1968	Happel Tel Aviv	1986	Happel Tel Aviv
941	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1968	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1987	Betar Jerusalem
943	Hapoel Tel Aviv	1969	Hapoel Tel Aviv		Hapoel Tel Aviv
947	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1203	Hapoel 161 AVIV	1988 1989	
949	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1970	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1203	Maccabi Halfa
-	Maccapi 101 AVIV	1971	Maccabi Netanya	1990	Bnel Yehuda
950	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1972	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1991	Maccabi Haifa
952	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1973	Hakoah Remat Gan	1992	Maccabi Tel Aviv
954	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1974			Betar Jerusalem
955	Hapoel Petah Tikva		Maccabi Notanya	1993	
955		1975	Hapoel Beersheba	1994	Maccabi Helia
990	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1976	Hapoel Beersheba	1985	Maccabl Tel Aviv
957	Hapoel Tel Aviv	1977	Maccabi Tel Aviv	1996	Maccabl Tel Aviv
958	Maccabi Tel Avfv	1978	Maccabi Netanya		

Previous State Cup winners

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1929	Mac. Tel Aviv4.	Mac. Heshmonei0
1930	Mac. Tel Aviv2	48th regiment 1
1932	British Police3,	Hap. Hatta
1933	Mac. Tel Aviv	Los Tol Aut
1934		Hap. Tel Aviv2
	Hap. Tel Aviv	MEG. 161 AVIV
1935	Mac Petah Tikva	Hakpah Tel Aviv
1937	Hap. Tel Aviv3,	South Tel Aviv0
1938	Hap. Tel Aviv	Mac. Tel Aviv
1939	Hap. Tel Aviv2	Mac. Petah Tikya1
1940	Bet. Tel Aviv	Mac. Tel Aviv
1941	Mac. Tel Aviv2	Mac. Tel Aviv1 Hap. Tel Aviv1
942	Bet. Tel Aviv	Mac. Helfa
1946	Mac. Tel Aviv	Hap. Richon Lezion
	Mag. Tel Aviv ,	
1947	Mac. Tel Aviv	Bet. Tel Aviv2
1952	Mac. Petah Tikva	Mac. Tel Aviv0
1954	Mac. Tel Aviv	Mac. Netanya
1955	Mac. Tel Aviv	Hap. Petah Tikva1
1957	Hap, Petah Tikva2	Mac. Jeffa1
1968	Mac. Tel Aviv	Hap. Halfa
1969	Mac. Tel Aviv4.	Hap. Halfa 0 Hap. Petah Tikva 3
1960	Hap, Tel Aviv	Hap. Petah Tikva1
1982	Mac. Haifsvs	Mec. Tel Aviv 0-0, 5-2
1963	Hap. Haifa	Man Halle
	Man Tal Ash	Mac. Halfa0 Hap. Halfa1-1, 1-1, 2-1
1964	Mac. Tel Avivvs	Hap. Hana1-1, 1-1, 2-1
1965	Mac. Tel Aviv2,	Shimshon Tel Aviv
1966	Hap. Helfa2	Shimshon Tel Aviv
1967	Mac. Tel Aviv	Hap. Tel Aviv1
1968	Bnel Yehuda	Hep. Petah Tikva
1969	Hakoah Ramat Gan	Mac. Sha'arayim
970	Mac. Tel Aviv	Mac. Netanya1
1971	Mac. Tel Aviv	Mec. Haife1
972	Hap. Tel Aviv	, Hap. Janusalem
1973	Hap. Jerusalem2	Hakoah Ramat Gan
1974	Use Use	Man Datab 371-
	Hap. Halfa	Hap. Petah Tikva0
1975	Hap. Kfar Sava3,	Bet. Jerusalem1
1976	Set Jerusalem2	Mac. Tel Aviv
1977	Mac. Tel Aviv	Bet. Tel Aviv
1978	Mac. Neterrya2	Bnei Yehuda1
1979	Set Jerusalem	Mac. Tel Aviv
1980	Hap. Kfar Sava4.	Mac, Ramet Amidar
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	Bod Valude was 4-2 on no	Hap. Tel Aviv
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1883	Hep. Tel Aviv	Mac. Tel Aviv
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	Hap. Lod	pities with system times
1985	Bet. Jerusalem1,	Mac. Haifa0
986	Bet. Jerusalem2,	Shimshon Tel Aviv
987	Mac. Tel Aviv	Mac. Halfa3
	(Mac. Haifa won 4-3 on per	pities after extra time!
988	Mac. Tel Aviv2	Hap. Tel Aviv1
1989	Bet. Jerusalem3.	Mac. Halfa3
	(Bet. Jerussiem won 4-3 on p	enalties after extra time)
990	Hap. Kfar Seva1,	Shimshon Tel Aviv
1991	Mac. Halfa3,	Hap. Petah Tikya 1
992	Hap. Petah Tikva	Mac. Tel Aviv1
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994	NASC. 184 AVW	Hap. Tel Aviv
995	Mac. Haita2.	Hap. Haifa 0
995 1996		

State Cup fixtures

Eighth round	January 25,	1997
Last-16	Merch 29.	1997
Quarter-finals.	April 1S.	1997
Semi-finals		1997
Finel	May 27.	1997

The Soccer Season Preview page was written and edited

1995-96 season honors

Hapoel Talba

Bet. J'iem v. Hap. Halfs. Ironi Rishon v. Mac. Halfs Holon v. Mac. Tel Aviv Mac. TA v. Bet. J'iem ... Mac. Haifa v. Hap. Haifa Hap. B'sheba v. Mac. Haifa

1996-97 season televised matches

Mac. PT v. Hap. Haita Bet. J'lem v. Hap. J'lem Hap. Beit Shean v. Mac. TA Mac. Herzilya v. Hap. Hatta

to Cup winners: Hapoel Beershebe	(3-0 winners over Happel Kfar Sava in final)	23.11.96 Mac. Haffa v. Bet. Jiem	22.297 Rap. P1 V
	1996-97 Nat	ional League sea	ason fixtures
4.8.98	(4) 28.9.96	(7) 28.10.96 (22) 15.3.97 Ironi Rishon Lezionv	(10) 23.11.96 (2) Zeirt/m Holen (2) Hap. Petsh Tikva.v Bot. Hap. Kiar Sava v Ma. Hap. Tel Aviv v Ma. Hap. Jerusalem v Hap. truit Rishon Leziotiv Hap. Bet She'anv Mac. P
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p. Talbavv Hap. Bet She'an	Hap, Halfav V Har
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p. Kfar Sava v Hap. Tel Avtv	Mac. Tel Aviv V F
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p. Tel Aviv v Zairirim Holon	Shed Valueda
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ni Alshon Leziony Mac. Halfa	Hap. Talbavvvv
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C. Petah Tikve. v	Mac. Haifa v v
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- Correbaire u Del impresion	Hen. Tel Aviv v Ha

Mac. Herzflys.	Hap. Petah Tikit Hap. Taibi Hap. Taibi
Zaminin Holon Hap. Talba Hap. Petah Til Men. Halfa Hap. Kiar Saviv Hap. Tel Aviv. Hap. Jenseber	(23) 22.3.97 V. Briel Vehuds V. Bel, Jeruselem VA. Mac. Herzkyt E. V. Hap. Beershebt V. Hap. Hap. Haft N. West Petah Tikve zionv. Hap. Bet She'ar
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1) 30.11.96 26) 19.4.97 10. Petah Tikva.v Zairkim Holon 10. Beersheba v. Hap. Bet She'an 10. Beersheba v. Hap. Rishon Lezion 10. Heziya v. Hap. Jerusalam 10. Tel Aviv v. Hap. Tel Aviv 11. Jerusalem v. Hap. Ktar Sava 12. Telba v. Hap. Fetah Tikva	(14) 28.12.96
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Hap Halfa ic. Petah Tikva ap. Bet She'an by Ori Lewis and Derek Fattal.

Commander in friendly fire mishap suspended

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine suspended the commander of the force which opened fire on its own men. killing St.-Sgt. Valery Ganzman and wounding Avishai Shafir on Tuesday. Ganzman, who immigrated from Belarus five years ago and had just one week left to serve when he was killed, was buried yesterday in Upper

Levine said that until the tragic incident the commander of the Givati Brigade's anti-tank piatoon had been level-headed and experienced. The commander, a second lieutenant, will remain suspeoded until a special investigative committee completes its inquiry.

In an initial inquiry held yesterday, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak reviewed the incident with

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

the commander of the platoon and soldiers who were involved. Also attending the inquiry were Levine, OC Ground Corps. Command Maj.-Geo. Amos Malka, the Galilee Division commander Brig.-Gen. Yom-Tov Samia, OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shlomo Yanai, who is responsible for the Givati Brigade, and

the Givati Brigade commander. The army said Shahak and Levine accepted the presentation made by the Galilee Division. That presentation reportedly blamed the platoon commander for

not having full control over his troops. The force had been returning from an all-night exercise wheo the commander suspected ooises behind him were terrorists moving in on his squad. His soldiers

opened fire on the group of soldiers making up the rear section, which was led by

Ganzman was killed outright and Shafir suffered serious chest wounds. Shahak ordered the special investigation be set up to put together a detailed sequence of events that led to the mishap and the lessons to be derived from the mistakes, the army said.



Fans reach out to take T-shirts from George Cluney (left) star of the American TV series 'ER' in Tel Aviv yesterday. Cluney was on a six-hour visit to Israel, taking a break from filming a movie in Spain and presented a gown and stethoscope to the Tel Aviv branch of the Planet Hollywood

Yarmuk dam would severely

reduce flow into the Jordan

help ease the chronic water

shortage there, as part of the

peace accord between the two

"Syria, in contravention of the

earlier agreements, already has a

network of dams along the tribu-

taries of the Yarmuk on the

Syrian side of the Golan.-By-

1991, Syria was drawing 200

million cu.m. of water from

these tributaries, leaving less to

Eitan blasts Yarmuk dam proposal

AGRICULTURE Rafael Eitan yesterday sharply criticized a reported proposal hy Jordan and Syria to jointly construct a dam on the upper reaches of the Yarmuk River.

Eitan said that if the report was correct and the plan weot ahead, it would constitute a breach of regiocal water agreements, including those contained io the peace treaty between Israel and lordan. Uoder the accord, Israel is supposed to give Jordan 30 million cubic meters of water a year from Lake Kinneret.

He warned that if only Syria and Jordan would benefit from the reported dam project, the government would have to recoosider water agreements with Jordan.

He said that if Israel were to get its share of the water from the dam project, he would have oo objectioos to the plan. But he maintained that it is highly unlikely that Syria would agree

DAVID RUDGE

to share any of the water with Israel.

Eitan stressed, however, that it is oot clear if the reports are correct and, if so, what had prompted Jordan and Syria to raise the dam proposal.

"I don't know if there is any thing in what has been reported and published, and I don't know if they are going to actually carry out the work on this joint dam," Eitan told Israel Radio. "If it does go ahead, however, or this trend does appears to be correct, it would be contrary to all the water agreements since the Johnston Accord in the early

Eitan ooted that the water issue will be one of the key issues in peace talks with Syria, if or wheo they resume.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon issued a

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Tracing Missing People

24 HOURS

DJ claims record for longest broadcast

statement sayiog that he "isn't familiar with the agreement

betweeo Syrian and Jordan and

wouldn't relate to the facts and

numbers published in the

He added: "I want to think that

the Jordanians, like us, honor

agreements and that they ioteod,

as we do, to fulfill their water

The original report of the

Yarmuk dam project was carried

in a recent edition of a London-

hased Arahic newspaper. The

paper quoted Jordanian sources

as saying that Jordan had for-

warded the proposal to Syria because of its disappointment

with the implementation of the

The report noted that Jordan

and Syria had signed an accord a

decade ago to jointly construct a

dam and reservoir along the

upper reaches of the Yarmuk, hut

it was never implemented due to

water agreements with Israel.

agreements with Israel."

media."

A DISC jockey for Army Radio yesterday broke the world record for the longest continuous radio broadcast of a single program, the radio station said.

Staff-Sgt. Illy Ber concluded 30 hours of broadcasting at 3 p.m. in a mobile studio set up on the Tel Aviv beach.

The old record of 29 hours and 38 minutes was set by Ireland's national radio station, Ber said.

Ber played music, hosted guests, and talked during his program. Needing a shave and garbling his sentences, Ber said he was just trying to have a good time.

It's fun for me," Ber said. "And of course, there's also the PR, why

In his last minutes on the air, Ber played the Beatles' song "Hard Day's Night," and finished with a song by Arik Einstein, "It's So Good You've Come Home." (AP)

THE construction of a dam on the upper reaches of the Yarmuk DAVID RUDGE

River on the Jordan-Syria border would reduce the flow in the lower section to a bare trickle, according to Technion Prof. Dan Zaslavsky, a former water com-

missioner. He noted that under the Johnston Accord of the early 1950s, which was accepted and upheld hy Jordan and Israel even though they never signed it, the Yarmuk waters flow directly into the Jordan River, south of the Kinneret, and are shared by Jordan and Israel.

Some of the water is diverted from the lower reaches of the Yarmuk to help irrigate fields in Jordan and Israel. Some of the water is also pumped into the flow into the Yarmuk," sald Zaslavsky.

"If another dam were to be constructed on the upper reaches of the Yarmuk, there would be Kinneret to help replenish the virtually nothing flowing down into the Jordan in the summer In return, said Zaslavsky. Israel is now transferring 30 miland only in rare cases of floods lion cubic meters of water a year in the winter. from the Kinneret to Jordan to

"This would deprive farmers on both sides of this water sonrce, and whatever might be left over would be highly saline.

This would also have an adverse effect on the landscape and nature in the area. Therefore, I sincerely hope these reports are incorrect, or that Jordan will not -go-ahead with such a joint project, especially with such an untrustworthy partner as Syria, Zaslavsky added.

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Japanese FM expected next week

Japanese Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda is expected to arrive bere Sunday, as part of his visit to the region, during which he will also visit the Palestinian autonomous areas, Jordan, Egypt, and Syria.

The improvement in bilateral relations following progress in the peace process is evidenced by apanese plans to open a trade office here next year and by Japanese investment, including the funding of joint projects, the Foreign Ministry said vesterday. Jerusalem Post Staff

National Fraud

Squad to question Zucker about Camera Obscurá **BILL HUTMAN**

MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) is to be summoned soon by the National Fraud Squad for questioning. He is suspected of financial wrongdoing connection with his work for the Camera Obscura photography company and school, senior police sources said yesterday.

The National Fraud Squad recently looked into the allegations and found reasonable cause for opening a formal investigation, according to the sources. Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair also gave his approval for an investigation.

Zucker is suspected of violating the Knesset Members Immunity Law by representing the Tel Avivbased company in its dealings with the Education Ministry. The ministry, with Zucker's help, allocated the school some NIS 600,000 for the 1995-1996 school year.

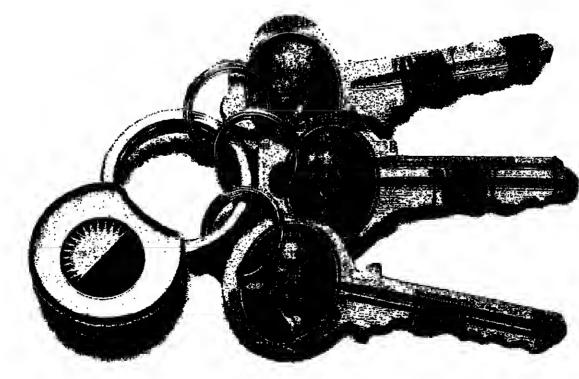
Zucker, who denies any wrongdoing, also allegedly received a salary of NIS 78,000 in 1995 from Camera Obscura, but declared less than half that amount to the Knesset chair-







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